MICROCOPY RESOLUTION TEST CHART

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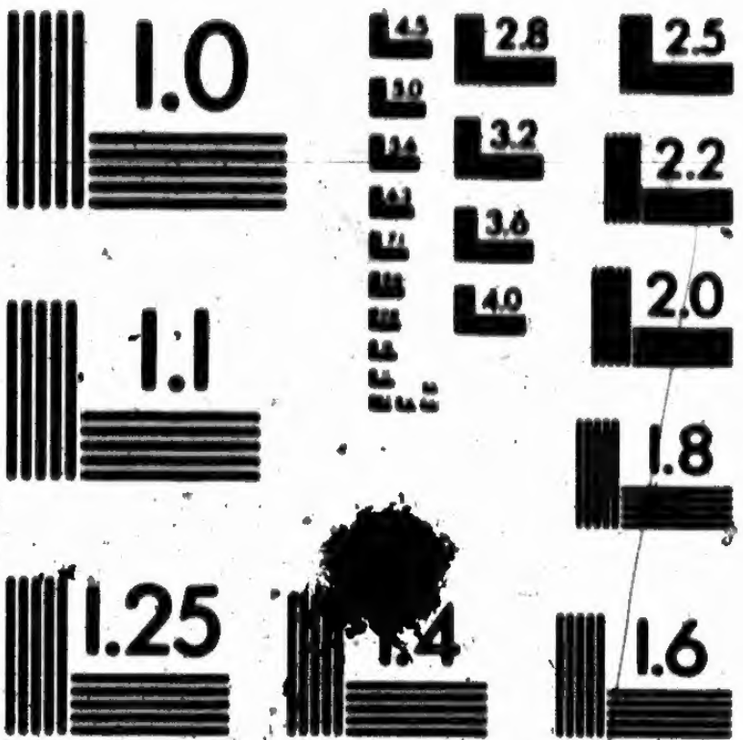

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SPRING 1883.

T. C. ROBINSON'S

CATALOGUE

OF

SMALL FRUITS AND GRAPE VINES.

OWEN SOUND, ONT.

J. RUTHERFORD, PRINTER, OWEN SOUND.

CONDITIONS, TERMS, &c.

1. Please write your order only on one side of a sheet of a paper, as it is thus more easily kept for reference.

2. Be sure to write your address very plainly. I fear I have lost one or two good customers, by failing, after the most careful scrutiny, to make out the writer's name or post office. If this meets the eye of any who have written to me without getting an answer, I hope they will write again.

3. Do not fail to write the name of your Post Office, *after your own name.* Sometimes a special name is given to a gentleman's residence, and this name used at the top of the letter with the date. If then, the Post Office address is not put at the foot of the page, I am often in doubt as to how I should address, either a reply or the plants.

4. When you do not live in a town of some size, be sure to state the county you live in, and also the province—when not Ontario.

5. In ordering by express, let me know whenever the name of the express office differs from your post office.

6. Please do not ask for less than half-a-dozen of one kind at dozen rates, or less than fifty of a kind at hundred rates. In certain cases special prices are given for three, five, half-a-dozen or fifty plants, which patrons will please observe.

7. Kindly make every order *amount to at least one dollar.* A large part of the cost of filling orders by mail arises from the labor of packing, and going perhaps to distant parts of the grounds for the different varieties. With small orders this labor is generally the same as with large ones, so that in this way—as well as in booking it, addressing tag, notifying customer of shipment, &c.—a twenty-five or fifty cent order would cost me nearly or quite as much as the price. I am willing to sell plants cheaply, but not to give them away—so let us stick to the dollar unit.

8. TERMS—CASH WITH ORDER. Pray do not object to this most necessary rule. After going to such expense to advertise my business, there is no danger that I will keep your money without sending the value in plants; as one such action, and the consequent exposure, would cost me more, in loss of custom alone, than returning your money fourfold. But I would be foolish to encumber my books with a multitude of credit sales in the case of persons that I have never seen or heard of before; so, if you desire your order to receive prompt attention, by all means enclose the money. Goods will be sent by Express C.O.D., when desired—if 25 per cent. of the price is sent with the order, to ensure me that the stock will be taken out of the office; as sometimes a purchaser is a little careless in attending promptly to goods that he has not paid anything on. But I do not recommend the C.O.D. plan at all, as the cost of collecting the price—which the Express Co. always takes out of the purchaser—is something serious, when the goods pass over several lines.

9. Send money by Registered Letter or Money Order, if you wish it to be at my risk. Money often comes to me in ordinary letters, and I have not heard of any going astray yet. This plan usually does for sums of a dollar or two, but I cannot become responsible for its safe arrival unless the letter is registered. I prefer Money Orders for all sums of $5 or over; as they secure you by making me legally responsible, and secure me by making it impossible for anyone else to get the money.

NOTICE that the MAILING DEPARTMENT receives my special attention. Plants are carefully packed in damp moss, and wrapped in oiled paper to retain the moisture—leaving the tops uncovered in the case of Strawberries—and, in this condition, will cross Our Broad Dominion, and will start into vigorous growth when planted with ordinary care. In this way I have mailed plants to New Brunswick, and even to Ireland, to the satisfaction of the recipients.

NOTICE ALSO that in all large orders by Express, at dozen and hundred rates, a number of extras will be put in, amounting to a suitable discount on the order, according to the value. Address all communications and orders to

T. C. ROBINSON,
OWEN SOUND.

Post Office Box 465.

RB125,490

A FRIENDLY CHAT.

BENEATH a deep covering of "The Beautiful Snow" my garden lies silent as if under the touch of death. But those who court the smiles of dame Nature know that below the seeming shroud securely repose the germs of life in bud and root and sap-cell—that must spring into green leaf—and brilliant flower and ruby fruit, when the returning rays of the Spring monarch shall render their snow-blanket no longer needful. Soon the passing months will replace the wide snow-drift with the long bank of Strawberry blossoms, blushing Raspberry will nod across the way to buxom Blackcap and dignified Blackberry, and all nature shall rejoice in abundance! But if we want a rich harvest of fruit in Summer we must expend a sowing of brains in Winter: a copious chapter of Strawberries and Raspberries in July and August can only follow an accurate and liberal index of plans and thought in February and March. Now what have you got in your garden?—If you havn't got what suits you, what do you want?—how much?—just where will you put it?—and how well will you treat it? To help you answer some of these questions to our mutual benefit, I write my little book and send it through the land freighted with accurate illustrations, honest descriptions, and fair quotations, that in this direction will give you a satisfaction, only excelled, I hope, by your success with the plants themselves.

In this edition of my Catalogue, which will reach many who have not asked for it, and who care little about having a great many sorts, I have left out a great many old varieties, that have had their day, and are now left behind by newer and better kinds—and also many *new* sorts that I do not know enough about to recommend, or that do not seem as good as they were claimed to be at first.

It is quite true that some of these new varieties may yet prove excellent; but I can't find out sufficient evidence of their excellence to justify an extended description. Some of the old kinds, however, that are omitted from the following pages, are really magnificent on certain soils, with good culture; and I therefore place them here, that they may not be lost sight of. Of these, the royal SHARPLESS still stands out as the largest of all strawberries yet tested, and a few should be in every home garden,—as in addition to its great size it makes a large vigorous plant, and bears abundantly of glossy delicious fruit, to the admiration of all beholders and the profit of the market-grower—*if the runners are kept off and good cultivation and plenty of manure are given.* Try it by all means, if you mean to give it fair treatment—otherwise I advise you to leave it alone. Price 30 cents per dozen, $1 per hundred by mail, post-paid; $5 per thousand by express.

DUNCAN.—A most delicious and very early sort—where it succeeds. On rich clay loam it generally bears fine crops of large handsome, rich flavored (but rather soft) berries, that will delight the family, or bring high prices in a near market. But on poor light land the berries are sure to run small after the first picking or two. The plant is a fine grower almost anywhere, and it will fruit even if runners are allowed to grow; but full satisfaction with it is only to be had with cutting the runners off before they waste the strength of the plant by sending out leaves and roots. Prices, same as Prouty.

PROUTY.—This is perhaps the most beautiful and productive of all the old sorts—where soil and treatment just suit it. Productive! Why it literally bears itself to death on dry soils. The number of berries it insists on setting on any soil, and with any system of cultivation is truly remarkable. Grown by the "Matted Row System," it has been described as "all berries and no plant"—few leaves manage to struggle up, the berries lie on the hot ground and soon scorch, and Melancholy Failure sits down on the whole concern. But put the Prouty on rich clay loam and promptly cut all runners and weeds—and the profusion of long tapering berries, with their glossy satin-like surface and excellent quality, will make you vote the Prouty a perfect boom in horticulture. Too soft too ship far. Price 40 cents per dozen, $1 per hundred, free by mail; $6 per thousand, by express.

Towards the last I will give a further list of new and old varieties for the benefit of those who like to experiment with different kinds; and intending purchasers desiring more extended descriptions can send a 3 cent stamp for my UNABRIDGED DESCRIPTIVE 50 PAGE CATALOGUE, which is illustrated with several beautiful colored plates.

I now ask you to turn the page and consider:

CHOICE SPECIALTIES

AND THE MOST PROMISING OF THE

LATEST NOVELTIES.

SOME of these are varieties that I have partially tested and have great confidence in. Some of them I have good hopes of, because so many reliable men speak well of them from experience; and some of them neither I nor any man in America has ever seen—except the originator and his immediate and intimate friends. New customers are not to suppose that I specially and personally recommend every new thing that I offer. The case stands this way: I have some customers that are specially interested in new varieties—pioneers in horticulture, their plan is to spy out and seize upon every new aspirant in the Small Fruit World, and make up their minds whether it is as good as it claims to be. Such persons sooner or later, are sure, if they proceed prudently, to hit on something so much better than the old sorts, that they far more than make up for the worthless varieties that they frequently get hold of; and the pleasure they experience in the pursuit is sure to keep them at it, so that they *will* buy these new sorts—from me or some other plant dealer. Naturally I want to keep the custom of these men,—their money is always as good as can be got from any one else, and their opinions generally a great deal better, because they are experienced and disinterested. It is for this class of customers that I advertise a few things that I have never seen; and I think I can be of use to them, because one novelty is as good as another to me until I try them both, and hence I do not crack up anything specially, unless from a careful survey of the horticultural press, it appears more worthy than others.

But I have other customers who don't care for experimenting with new things, but will buy a new thing from me if I recommend it highly—and I well know, if they do so, that they will blame me, and probably withdraw their custom, if it doesn't turn out well. Of course this consideration makes me careful in expressing my opinion, and anxious *not to be misunderstood!* Therefore I ask my customers to notice carefully whether I give my own opinion, or only the opinions of other fruit men, and to hold me responsible *only for my own opinion.* I will stand or fall by it every time, and I only wish it had been possible for me to test every sort I offer before selling it, so as to give my own opinion every time. I think I could put many dollars in my purse this Spring if I could say of the Bidwell, Manchester and James Vick, for instance, that I had found some one of them better than all the others on the list, and likely to do well on certain soils throughout the country. Well I can't say it yet, but I will do so as soon as experience will warrant. Look out for me next Summer! I have seen and eaten Bidwell and Manchester already, and have secured a specimen bed of them that promises to give glorious results this year; and I have further, by special grace of Mr. Green, set out a very few potted James Vicks, that promise a fair taste of the fruit—the very prospect of which makes my mouth water—all of which puts me in good shape for a pretty full and happy experience in the coming fruiting time. But this much I can say at present, that the man who gets all three of these varieties is very likely indeed to have among them a better kind for market—possibly for home use too—than any other sort before the public; and, in view of the fact that no sort is likely to suit all soils, he is far safer to have them all anyhow.

Now if you want to try the new sorts, this list will give you a good chance, because in the first place I have tried to guide you by leaving out sorts that seem of little value, and secondly because I have given the opinions of only the most reliable authorities. When one or two men like Chas. Downing, E. P. Roe, M. P. Wilder, Peter Mead, J. T. Lovett, C. A. Green and A. M. Purdy praise a variety, it is likely to be good; if several of them say it, then you may try it with considerable hopes of success on your

soil; but if most or all of them declare its excellence, then go ahead without hesitation, —you may fail on account of different conditions of culture, but you will not fail if the plants have as good treatment and situation as where those men saw it.

First in order comes

THE STRAWBERRY.

Many of my present friends have not received my Summer Circular of Potted Strawberry Plants, and as my stock of these circulars is pretty well used up, I will briefly state a few of my Strawberry results of last year, and conclusions drawn therefrom.

1st.—One-third of an acre of Crescent's, fertilized with Wilson's, cultivated on the hill system, yielded by careful estimate at the rate of two hundred bushels per acre.

Note.—The runners several times were very numerous, and even somewhat rooted, before cutting them off, and the weeds too, got a strong start more than once; and further, the land was rather sandy, and was very poor until mulched with manure.

2nd.—A patch of Wilson's near by, on richer land, but grown by the "matted bed plan," until some of the plants were cut out where too close, gave a very poor crop in comparison.

Note.—Crescent, Glendale, and other sorts grown by the "matted row system," gave similar results; or less than half of the yield by the hill system.

3rd.—As a necessary conclusion from the foregoing results, and observations to similar purpose for several years, I lay down the rule for my own guidance—and I think it will fit other grounds—that the best results in field culture are obtainable by setting the plants a foot apart, in rows two feet apart, on rich, loose, loamy soil, and removing all weeds and runners as fast as they show themselves; and further, that by such treatment with the Crescent, or any equally productive variety, I can raise at least double the crop above stated. If this yield will not pay any reader for the labor involved, then he had better stick to the old plan; but no more "Matted Row" abominations for me!

Before examining the merits of the standard varieties let us notice the most promising of the newest claimants on our attention.

The varieties now attracting the most attention are Bidwell, Manchester and James Vick. First let us look at

THE BIDWELL.

I wish you could literally look at it—or a picture of it. One of my vexations in getting up this Catalogue is that, so far as I can find out, the only full electrotype of this variety in America that is worth setting before you on paper is in the hands of a gentleman who refuses to part with a copy. But if the Bidwell averages over a pint to the plant on my grounds—as from past experience, and appearances before snow covered the bed, I think it will really do—and if the fruit is as good to eat as represented, and continues as firm and good for market purposes as it was with me last summer, then I will get an illustration of the variety for my Catalogue at whatever cost within reason. The plant is a fine grower on loamy soil, if the runners are cut off; but it makes many young plants if allowed to run—exhausts itself I would think—more from the branching of the runners and continual forming of plants in a line from the same runner than from the great number of runners that the old plant sends out. Although it is said to do well on light land, yet I would prefer to put it on heavier soil and put the Manchester on the sand.

The berries of the Bidwell were very large with me at first, and I think might have been so till the last, but for the facts that they were young potted plants and had rather too much manure under them that was not sufficiently decomposed. There was some clay in the patch I prepared for them, and I was too busy to mulch them, so that the rain splashed the berries very badly; and hence I am not able to speak as definitely about their appearance and flavor as I would like to do. But this I can say, that the show of berries was simply remarkable for such young plants, that the run of fruit was large to very large, and that the berries were very firm for such large fruit—in fact I thought they were fully as firm as Wilson—and they tasted very good indeed.

Now read the opinions of the most reliable authorities in America:

E. P. Roe says:—"Again, for the third season, the Bidwell Strawberry takes the lead of anything on my place, averaging as large as the Sharpless, more productive than the Wilson or Crescent, of a bright glossy crimson—the true strawberry color—very firm and meaty in texture, and best of all, delicious in flavor. It thrives well on light soils and on all soils. * * * * * Even in the matted row they tend to develop into enormous stools. On one potted plant set

last August we counted 122 berries. If runners are kept off I believe the Bidwell will form the largest, most beautiful and bushy plants of any variety in existence. * * * Under high culture, with runners kept off, I believe they would yield more bushels to the acre than potatoes. The berry is so firm that it carried to market as well as the Wilson and brought double the price. It is also as early as the Wilson; it ripens the bulk of its crop before the Sharpless matures."

This is exceedingly high praise to apply to any fruit, and only those acquainted with Mr. Roe's reliability will appreciate its full force. That it is no higher than the Bidwell deserves will appear from the following opinions of prominent pomologists who examined it on Mr. Roe's grounds:

"The most productive of all varieties, of very fine flavor, very uniform in shape, averaging large to the last, of a bright glossy crimson color, often with a glazed neck, and in form much like a bell-shaped pear, early as the Duchess, flesh solid and meaty."

"CHARLES DOWNING."

(Also signed by six others, unknown to Canadian fruit growers generally.)

"The Bidwell is of great promise, even from the late potted plants put out in August."
May 30, 1881. "HON. MARSHALL P. WILDER."

"The Bidwell, thus far, promises to quite fulfill the expectations I had formed of it. At this time it promises to yield a larger crop of fruit than any other variety I have in my collection. It is of so good a quality that I hope it may prove to be adapted to general cultivation, which it now seems to promise, for my soil, compared with yours, is very light."
June 1st, 1881. "PETER B. MEAD."

"The Bidwell Strawberry looks better than anything else on my place."

"PETER HENDERSON."

"My plants of Bidwell promise to excel in productiveness anything I have seen, the Crescent *not* excepted."
May 30, 1881. "J. T. LOVETT."

"The coming farmer's berry. I do not think that I have seen any variety that promises to fill the bill so well for general cultivation. Its flavor will suit even the most fastidious, and under ordinary cultivation it is enormously productive. It will average as large if not larger than the Sharpless, and the plant is a very vigorous grower."

"D. A. A. NICHOLS,"
(one of the editors of the *Country Gentleman*.)

"The Bidwell Strawberry as grown at Cornwall seems to me fully as prolific as the Crescent and Wilson; is of much larger size and, and far superior in quality. If it succeeds elsewhere as at Cornwall I believe it will be the best strawberry for general cultivation of any variety now grown."

"H. B. ELLWANGER,"
(of the firm of Ellwanger & Barry.)

"I am greatly obliged to you for giving me an opportunity to inspect your beds of the Bidwell Strawberry. I am familiar with the various kinds of strawberries that have been introduced within the past fifteen years and never have yet seen a more promising variety. The delicious flavor of the fruit, its large size, rich color, firm flesh, earliness and productiveness, combined with its hardiness and vigorous growth, cannot fail to make it one of the most popular varieties for the market. No one will ever grow a Wilson after having tested the Bidwell, and should it succeed as well in other localities as in your own, it will take the place of many other varieties now grown by market-gardeners, as well as by private growers."

"Truly yours,
B. K. BLISS,"
(well-known New York Seedsman.)

It must be remembered that this variety is now pretty well disseminated in the States and it is not in Mr. Roe's place alone that it has shown its merits: from Mr. Lyon in its Michigan home—from New Jersey sands and Connecticut Valley loam—from stiff clay, and gravelly and sandy loam in New York State—come the same assurances of its value. How it will do throughout Canada remains yet to be fully seen, but considering the superior results of Strawberry Culture in this country, it is only fair to expect well of it everywhere that a Strawberry can be grown, and any fruit grower that does not give it a trial will make a serous mistake.

Most of my original stock of plants came from Mr. Roe, but I also purchased Bidwells from J. T. Lovett of New Jersey and T. T. Lyon of Michigan, (the original introducer,) and to the honor of all parties I find the plants evidently the same variety. Perfect flowered. Price—50 cents per dozen; $1.50 per hundred; $8.00 per thousand.

MANCHESTER.

"Manchester."

This variety gave most excellent promise on my ground in fruiting time last summer, and in consequence I have hopes of its proving the best market berry I know of—for sandy land at least. What are its faults?—only two that I know of, and I am only sure about the first: it is pistillate, and it does not appear quite as firm as I would like.

(By *pistillate*, we mean lacking in the fine yellow dust or pollen that is found in most flowers—hence needing a *staminate*, or *hermaphrodite* (that is, perfect-flowered) variety, within ten or twenty feet, to make the blossoms come to anything. If left alone no berries will form, or very few of them. The Wilson is perfect-flowered: so is the Bidwell and most other kinds.)

Its good points are its apparent productiveness and healthy growth on sandy soil with me, its bringing every berry up to good size, even at the last, its excellent quality—even better to my taste than Bidwell,—its firmness, which exceeds Crescent, Downing and such like market berries, and lastly, its glossy smoothness and beauty of form. Such another large, handsome berry for market purposes, when picked in the crate, I don't know anything about from experience. But this was only on very late fall-set plants, that were nearly smothered with drifting sand.* Perhaps older plants would not be correspondingly productive: *perhaps* on older plants the berries would not be so smooth and handsome: *perhaps* on clay land they would not taste so good? My friends can form their own opinion on these points, as on all others—I state the facts, and have no doubt that my own opinion is quite clear to all who read. Other fruit men say:

"As Compared with Wilson's Albany.

1. It averages one and a half times the size.
2. It is of much better flavor.
3. It is far more attractive, with its bright scarlet color, and finer in appearance.
4. The plant is double the size and far more vigorous.
5. It carries the fruit higher from the ground.
6. The yield, as it appears, is one-half more.
7. In firmness it fully equals the Wilson."

(Dated) June 9th, 1881.

(Signed)

"Peter B. Mead," "Wm. Parry,"
"Jno. S. Collins," "E. P. Roe,"
"J. H. Hale," "J. G. Burrow,"

(also fourteen others unknown to Canadian fruit growers generally.)

"I, having sold the berry referred to for several years and in quantity for the past three years, do hereby certify, that from its large size, bright color, fine appearance and firmness, it invariably commands higher prices. Further, it keeps its color the best of any berry I have ever handled and "stands up" well. I do not hesitate to "keep it over" and have at different times, when

there was a glut in the market, kept it over until the second day, when it would present a fine appearanee and sell rapidly at better prices than could possibly have been obtained when it came into market."

(Signed) "C. W. IDELL, Commission Merchant, 333 Washington St., N. Y. City."

OFFICERS OF MEETING { "WILMER ATKINSON, President," "J. T. LOVETT, Secretary."

"The Manchester, regarding which we have hitherto restrained any positive expression of opinion; is one of the most desirable strawberries we have ever raised, and we have tested not less than 250 different kinds. The only thing that can be said against it is that it is pistillate, and must be grown near perfect-flowering sorts, which for many farmers is attended with trouble or perhaps inconvenience. Our plants are exceedingly vigorous and productive. We have just examined them and find that each plant, on an average, bears 16 peduncles or flowering stems, and that each flowering stem bears, on an average, 10 berries—giving 160 berries to a plant. We beg to emphasize that we are speaking of *average* plants. On one plant we counted 22 peduncles and 220 berries in the various stages from ripe to just set. This berry is firm, very uniform as to shape, which is roundish conical; it ripens in every part and averages above medium as long as it remains in fruit. The quality when ripe is good, though like the Wilson, it is sour when it first colors—a characteristic, it seems, of all excellent market berries. It ripens with the Sharpless and after Bidwell. * * * It thrives in a light, dry, sandy soil. With us it thrives in a moist soil, inclining to clay. Several years ago, from our own tests we spoke highly of the Sharpless, and soon after its introduction, of the Cumberland Triumph. We have never had occasion to regret this, and we have now little fear that we shall regret commending the Manchester to our readers as the best market berry at present known."—*Rural New Yorker, July 8th, 1882.*

From J. T. Lovett's Catalogue:

"1. It is supremely firm, keeping its color and flavor and *remaining* firm longer than any other variety.

2. It is large and exceptionally uniform *throughout* the season.

3 In shape it is as near perfect as can be desired, and remarkably uniform: resembling Cumberland Triumph.

4. It is exquisitely beautiful, being of the most brilliant, charming scarlet imaginable, with smooth surface, and prominent bright golden seeds. It ripens all over at once.

5. It is of superb quality—being much sweeter and richer than any other *productive* variety.

6. It is wonderfully prolific—producing fully doubly as much as the Wilson.

7. It is a very vigorous grower, with large, luxuriant, glossy foliage, and putting out large pink runners.

8. It continues in fruit for a long season, commencing to ripen with Charles Downing, and continuing until very late, bringing up the last blossoms to large and perfect berries.

9. It endures drought better than any other variety.

10. Its fruit stalks are tall and very strong, admitting of mulching, and in a great measure holding the fruit from the ground.

Thus I spoke of the Manchester in my Catalogue for the Fall of 1881. I have nothing to take from but much to add to what was then stated. At the Monmouth Nursery the past season it has been simply wonderful. Wonderful in its great vigor; wonderful in productiveness, in beauty, in firmness, in its flavor; wonderful in uniting in one variety so much that is desirable. I have taken pains to see it in various locations and situations, and I found it fully as fine elsewhere as on my grounds, while reports are coming in from all parts of the country and in all cases, *without a single exception*, it is ever the same."

In comparing this with the Bidwell, however, the fact must be kept in mind that they were on very different soils. The Bidwell was put on old sandy loam that had been turned down and thoroughly mixed with the clay sub-soil and supplied in the mixing with plenty of ashes, lime, and partly decomposed fish scraps, which, however excellent when well rotted and settled together, must have created a chemical commotion under the plants that prevented them from showing their real nature in fruiting; while the Manchester was perched on a sandy knoll of new land some seven hundred feet distant. But the benefit of the new land had I think been pretty well put out of sight by the hacking, prying and digging necessary to grub out the half green roots of about the worst old maple stump in ten miles. Difference of soil generally develops divergence in productiveness as well as in quality of the fruit. On the clay land the Manchester *might* possibly have been less handsome and delicious: on the sandy loam the Bidwell might easily have been smoother and better flavored. How can I compare

results so unlike the conditions which produced them? It seems too bad to take time and printing, to specify all the little particulars in this way, but I am anxious to satisfy all my patrons' desires to know the merits and demerits of these two famous varieties, and this is the only fair way I can hit on.

Price of the Manchester—$1.50 per dozen.

SENECA QUEEN.

My friends will please notice that I have tested this pretty thoroughly, and I must say it is a most desirable variety. Mr. Roe says: "One of the most productive and remarkable looking berries I have ever seen. The plants literally covered the ground with fruit that was of a very dark crimson when fully ripe. In the opinion of nearly all my visitors during the past season it stood next to the Bidwell in general promise." The past season was my first fair test of it, on account of the frost of the previous summer. On very poor soil, and exhausted in forming plants, it yet made such a show of large sweet berries as to surprise all who examined it. We all liked it better than the Bidwell, and it is a fine, upright grower. The general outline of the berry is uniform, but it is not smooth, and is rather flat or cake-shaped. It is also a little soft—slightly more so than Crescent; but no one would eat Crescent or Wilson with Seneca Queen anywhere within reach. It is rather early, and for family use I put it decidedly first on the list so far—unless Bidwell, Vick or Manchester develops such superior productiveness as to throw it in the shade. If the frost had not prevented me from finding its value in 1881, I would have had very many more plants this seasson, but as it is such a fine grower it will soon make up for lost time. Perfect flowered.

50 cents per dozen; 40 for $1.00, free by mail; $2.00 per hundred, by express.

SHIRTS.

A variety that ought to have a place in the home garden—it is so delicious and such a healthy grower. I cannot say how productive it is at the usual season, but spring-set plants last year persisted in bearing large delicious berries till about the end of October—ripe ones too, and remarkably sweet and fine, considering the coldness of the season. They might not repeat such peculiar conduct in a drier fall, but I have hopes of a good showing at the usual season. I can sell it now at 40 cts. per doz. free by mail; $1.00 per hundred by express. If to be sent by mail at hundred rates add 15 cts. per fifty; 25 cts. per hundred for postage.

CRESCENT SEEDLING AND WINDSOR CHIEF—(CHAMPION.)

These are the two great market berries for light soil, where quantity is a greater object than quality, and where the market is near by. I have had Crescents shipped to Toronto—122 miles by rail—and I presume the Windsor would carry about as well; but I do not recommend them in cases where the market is over 50 miles distant. To my taste the Wilson, when well ripened, is superior to either of them—the Windsor especially being very sour when first ripe; but there is no doubt that the great million-mouthed public will buy them and with smacking lips ask for more! If the Manchester proves as productive and otherwise good for market on light soil as I fully anticipate, it will leave both of them far in the rear, as it is handsomer, firmer and better flavored; but meantime the Manchester is too dear to set out in large quantities, and requires further testing on Canadian soils, so that market gardners who plant Crescent and Windsor on light soils are sure to put money in their purse—especially where Wilson has run out. They are both immensely productive—the Crescent early and Windsor very late—both sure to be sold by shop-keepers as pure Wilsons, both better flavored on sandy land, but both pistillate—needing every 6th or 8th row to be say Wilson, Sharpless or Glendale.

Price—30c. per doz., $1.00 per hundred, free by mail; $5.00 per thousand, $20.00 per five thousand, by express.

THE LIVING CHURCH

JAMES VICK

I have not fruited this yet, but have good hopes of it from the following account and statements which I clip from the catalogue of the introducer, Mr. Green, of near Rochester—from whom I got my plants.

History.—The James Vick Strawberry originated with Samuel Miller, in Montgomery County, Missouri. As a seedling, it attracted attention by the glossiness, vigor and beauty of its foliage before it bore fruit, and was planted and watched anxiously. When it fruited and gave promise of great value, Mr. Miller sent it here to be tested, and to a few others in different States. It is therefore not introduced without knowing how it will succeed away from its home. We know of no berry of recent introduction which has been so thoroughly tested, and which has not been found deficient in any respect in any locality. The originator is well known as a horticulturist, having originated the Martha Grape and other fruits of great value. Realising that he could not properly introduce the James Vick from his isolated location he placed it in our hands.

The James Vick was seen in full fruit the past season by President Patrick Barry, George Ellwanger, ex-President W. C. Barry, Secretary P. C. Reynolds, the Vick Brothers, and most of the prominent authorities about Rochester, N.Y. It was recognised generally as a new variety of great promise, as possessing distinct and peculiar characteristics over any other variety.

To Whom it may Concern:

"I am the originator of the James Vick Strawberry. It is being offered to the public for the first time, through Green's Nurseries, Rochester, N.Y., with my consent and assistance. Mr. Green has shown what the seedling is worth, and when he saw fit, with the consent and approval of the firm of James Vick, to give it the name of one of our best men, just deparced, I gave my consent. Here in the wilderness, where there is not a good strawberry patch within twenty miles, except my own, there would have been no use in my attempting to get it properly introduced. That it will bear more good sized handsome berries than any other strawberry I ever saw is a fact of which any one may be assured by planting it.

(Signed), SAMUEL MILLER.

Montgomery Co., Missouri.

The James Vick made a decided sensation among the staid authorities of the city nurseries, and many famous men made a pilgrimage to view it in its glory.

The roots indicate great vigor, the largest we have seen on any variety. Mr. Peter B. Mead remarked that they were something unusual We sent fruit of the James Vick to Mr. J. T. Lovett, over 300 miles distant, and he reports that it came in fine condition. As a shipping variety it is particularly desirable.

Marshall P. Wilder writes: "You will be pleased to learn that Mr. Benj. G. Smith, of Cambridge, has succeeded famously with the James Vick." Mr. Wilder sent an order for the James Vick by *telegraph*.

Ex-President W. C. Barry: "The most promising of all the new strawberries I have tested."

Mr. Peter B. Mead says he has seen enough of the James Vick, from Spring set plants to warrant placing it among the very promising varieties, and that it endures drouth remarkably well.

Vick's Magazine says: Its merits as a prolific and profitable strawberry are now pretty well established.

THE POINTS OF MERIT

of the James Vick are briefly:

1. Fine quality, unusual vigor and hermaphrodite (or perfect) blossoms.
2. Color, form and firmness of berry, which approach the ideal. No white tips, no coxcombs.
3. Ability to stand on the vines a week after ripening, without becoming soft, or rotting, or losing quality or much lustre. Instead of softening it shrinks a trifle, and becomes firmer than when first ripe.
4. Uniformly large size, and productiveness unequalled by any other variety. One hundred and eighty berries were counted on one average plant, and from one row about 100 feet long nearly two bushels of berries were gathered.

GLENDALE.

I put this variety in this list, not because I like it or think it particularly good, but because it is the only sort thoroughly tested that will at all fill a great want, viz., a late market berry for sandy soils, that will ship well. Its firmness and perfect-flowered habits are its only advantages over the Windsor Chief, while it is less handsome, less productive, equally sour, and the berries dwindle down more at the last—the Windsor being remarkable for large berries throughout the season. Still the public will buy it, and if you grow berries on sandy land for a *distant market* that wants late fruit, you must set out the Glendale or do without until the Manchester is fully tested. There is of course the alternative of planting SHARPLESS, but the latter is less firm and productive, so that a nearer market and higher prices must be on hand to tempt us to produce the magnificent berries of that noble variety. I now offer both Glendale and Sharpless for $5.00 per thousand—giving special low rates to those who order several thousand, and *especially to very early orders*. MINER'S PROLIFIC is another late sort for market that is more productive and nearly as large as Sharpless; but it is not so firm, nor does it taste so good. Both Miner's Prolific and Sharpless, however, are better for loamy soil than for sandy land, and the same may be said of GOLDEN DEFIANCE (pistillate). I will sell all of these at the same rates as Crescent, Windsor Chief, Sharpless, &c.; but in dismissing the market question I must say that until Bidwell, Manchester and James Vick are thoroughly tested, there is no *late shipping variety* that I consider satisfactory, on loamy soil especially, in yield and quality; and there is in fact no *old sort* that will give returns in dollars and cents on any soil, like Crescent for early and Windsor for late—*on sandy soil*, and for a near market that can relish the Wilson. (The Wilson of course is yet the great *shipping* berry, and on *clay loam* will yield about as much as Crescent or Windsor.)

BIG BOB.

This kind is praised very highly by A. M. Purdy, of Palmyra, who declares his confidence that it will prove more productive and uniform than Sharpless, finer in appearance, richer in color, vastly superior in quality and *averaging larger*—as vouched for by the originator. If all this comes out true, then the Big Bob must be the greatest strawberry on earth, and I am anxious for a sight of it. I quote also from a writer in the *Rural New Yorker:* J. D. K., of Miami County, Ohio, says: "The first fruit ripens as early as the Wilson, but it holds out longer. The first fruit picked compared with the Wilsons that grew in the same patch, and which were used to fertilize them, were about as large again, with the same deep color, but the body was generally square instead of pointed at the end. There were several prominent fruit growers here lately, and in my hearing they pronounced the "Big Bob" by far the best thing they had ever seen. It is a pistillate plant, but very easily fertilized. Mr. N. claims that "Big Bob" will produce as much bulk of fruit acre for acre as the Wilson, and that is saying a good deal, but from close observation I should judge it was not saying too much for it."

Price—$2.00 per doz., free by mail.

LACON.

Mr. Purdy speaks very highly of this also, from experience in fruiting. It pleased him so well that he bought out the entire stock. I quote from his Catalogue a letter from one who seems to be held in considerable respect by Western horticulturists:

MR. E. R. MCKINNEY: My first visit I found it four to six days earlier than any variety in your collection or mine, and it has been first to ripen fruit each season since. I have found its fruit of the largest size, of a fine, dark, bright red color, very firm, certainly as much so as the Wilson; flesh bright red, generally conical with a broad base, somewhat ribbed and irregular in shape; in quality, best; enormously productive, producing on *your* soil six to fifty times as much as the Wilson, growing alongside of it, and several times more fruit than any other variety in your collection. The vines are among, if not the hardiest of cultivated strawberries. Yours fraternally,

D. B. WIER, Lacon, Ill., (July 6th.)

The following is part of the originator's description:—

THE LACON (H.)—E. R. McKinney, of Lacon, Ill., says of this sort: "After raising strawberries from seed for more than ten years, and in that time testing all the leading varieties, I think I may lay claim to a slight knowledge of the requisites of a market berry. I have had

scores of sorts from seed, some good, and more bad; and, among both seedlings and named sorts, my seedling which I have named Lacon stands head and shoulders ahead of all of them. It is a cross between Wilson's Albany and the Russell's Great Prolific. In foliage it resembles the Russell in color and form of leaf, but not in ability to stand the sun, as the Russell is poor in this respect; while Lacon is perfectly sunproof, even better than Green Prolific. In fruit it resembles the Wilson in color and form, with the exception of the large berries, which are inclined to be coxcomb shape, like T. de Gand. The Lacon is one-third larger, has a pure flavor and is not so sour as Wilson's; and that it is more productive than Wilson's, dozens of men can testify who saw them on my grounds side by side. I have berries that measure from 4 to 5½ inches in circumference, on plants grown in matted rows without cultivation or mulching, and not one here and there but they are all large. It holds its size up to the last picking. If now, at the last of the season, will average larger than Wilson at the best, grown as strawberries are usually grown for market. I have never tried to see what it would do under good cultivation. It is *perfectly hardy* under the most trying tests.

Price—25 cts. each; $2 per dozen.

OLD IRON-CLAD—(Phelps), (H).

I quote again from Mr. Purdy:—

"The party from whom we obtained our plants, who is one of the largest Strawberry growers and shippers in this country, writes us under date of November 9, 1882, as to this sort: 'The plants are very vigorous—more so than the Sharpless. [Yes, much more so with us.—Purdy.] The fruit resembles the Sharpless greatly in size and shape. It is light scarlet—not as dark or deep as the Wilson. It is five days earlier with me than the Wilson. Blossoms perfect or Hermaphrodite. Berries carry well, having shipped it 300 miles in perfect condition, and selling much better than the Wilson. It stands the drouth perfectly, and is very healthy. From what I know of it now I would have willingly given $5,000 for the original stock, if I could have had entire control of it.'

If there is a Strawberry on our grounds among all our new or old sorts that will take the prize over the Big Bob it is this sort. It is the rankest, healthiest growing plant on our place—even surpassing such sorts as the Bidwell, Sharpless, Green Prolific and Windsor Chief in this respect. It forms the largest stools or crowns, and makes the most fruit germs in the Fall of ANY sort we ever saw. We have grown and fruited it the past season, and in our THIRTY-FIVE YEARS' EXPERIENCE in growing Strawberries we have not seen its equal for growth and large sized plants, and in this respect it differs and is more distinct from other sorts than any known Strawberry. Not a person has visited our grounds but what has acknowledged this, and in every instance they have ordered plants of it.

A prominent horticulturist of Missouri says of it: 'This Strawberry is a remarkable production. Last year scarcely a plant succumbed to the drouth in beds side by side with the Wilson, where not a plant of the latter survived, as can be attested by numerous growers here. All that is claimed for it is true. The only objection, if it is an objection, is that the berry is too large and in many cases not as handsome as some berries, as it has the appearance of three or four berries together to form a mammoth in size.'

In our long experience in growing Strawberries, and having grown every sort worth growing that we have heard of, we find this sort distinct in growth of plant from any other variety we have grown. Many of the berries "sport" and grow somewhat in shape and color like the old Triomph de Gand, but it is more juicy and far more prolific, and what makes it still more valuable, it shows no sign of rust or sun burning, but right in the midst of the past season's severe drouth

it was a marvel for greenness and healthiness of plant, being told quickly from all other sorts across a large field. Every person who reads this catalogue should set some of this sort, and so confident are we that it will prove a success over the entire country, that we will make the amount cost us for it good in any other stock if it does not give good satisfaction."

Price—30 cts. each; $2.00 per dozen.

I can also supply Finch's Seedling, Piper and other novelties at the prices of the introducers, or reliable American dealers and nurserymen—if ordered in time.

HANSELL RASPBERRY.

As I have not tested this, the best I can do for my patrons is to sift out the golden opinions of reliable men from the rubbish and trash put forth by inexperienced or untruthful sight-seers. In the case of this fruit and the Manchester Strawberry, the right plan has been taken of inviting a number of the most intelligent and trustworthy authorities in small fruit matters to visit the plants in fruiting and freely express their opinions. In this case as with the Manchester, the fruit as well as the plants met, with unqualified praise, and the reader may take it for granted that however the Hansell may do in Canada, it certainly has done well in New Jersey. I may add that the Canadian climate is generally more favorable to Raspberries than that of New Jersey; because with us it is seldom so hot and dry as to cause the leaves to drop off during Summer, as they do there, causing the wood to be so imperfectly ripened as to winte -kill. For this reason, Raspberries like the Brinkle's Orange, that often stand without winter protection here, often flatly refuse to crop in exposed field culture south of New York. Hence, a Raspberry that does well there has an extra chance of success in Canada—if it will do well at all away from home.

The Hansell is stated to have ripened one season as early as June 4th, and in the late season just closed it had been ready to pick several days before the meeting of

Fruit and Plant Growers referred to, on the 27th of June; so that making all due allowance for a later season coming Northward, we may expect it to ripen here very early in July in an ordinary season, or before the Wilson Strawberries are fairly out of the market.

Passing for the present the claims of the introducer, and the opinions of others present, except to notice the resolution they unanimously adopted, viz.: *Resolved*, "That it is the sense of this meeting that this is the earliest Raspberry so far as known. Further, it is of bright red color, of fine shape, and of great firmness"—I copy for your attention an extract from the *Rural New Yorker* (issue of July 29, 1882) well known as perhaps the most intelligent and reliable, as well as disinterested, authority in America.

"The Hansell is a new Red Raspberry that will be offered for sale next year. It originated on the farm of the Hansell Brothers, of Burlington Co., New Jersey, and it is thought to be the earliest Red Raspberry known. This is the opinion of Judge Parry, John S. Collins, J. T. Lovett, J. Burrows, and a number of other competent judges assembled at the farm of the Hansell Brothers to see and to express their opinions of this berry. Berries of the Hansell were brought to the *Rural* office by Mr. Lovett a week before any, whether Red or Black, had begun to color at the *Rural* grounds. They were of medium size, bright red, very firm and of good quality. We learn that this variety is entirely hardy in the grounds where it originated, and it is our belief that it will at once take its place as the earliest Red Raspberry known, and it will be the more prized because of its better quality than the Highland Hardy or any other which at once follows it in fruiting."

There you have it: the moderate praise of the *Rural New Yorker* is worth oceans of laudation from interested but unknown parties. A medium, firm, bright red Raspberry, ripening earlier than Highland Hardy, and of superior quality, will fill a great void in my berry sales, and I am going to plant all I can on my own place for fruit, as well as for plants: hence I can offer the plants at very low rates (considering the duty) for a new variety.

I am now able to offer this famous variety at the introducer's price, viz., $3.00 per doz., by express. If to be mailed add 1½ cents per plant to cover postage and the extra packing which such a valuable variety deserves.

Single plants 40 cts. each; 3 for $1.00 by mail, postpaid.

SUPERB.

This Raspberry was introduced by Mr. Churchman, of New Jersey, and has been before the public rather longer than the Hansell, which it claims to rival in earliness. It has excited the admiration of men like John S. Collins, E. Williams, S. C. DeCou, G. H. & J. H. Hale, who have examined it in fruiting; and it has given great satisfaction to Mr. Purdy. As this gentleman seems particularly slow to praise anything not introduced by himself, we may place special importance on his opinion when he says:

"The Superb Raspberry is a most delicious berry. Enormously productive; berries largest size, dark scarlet, and plant very hardy. A valuable feature is that the new growth yields nicely after the old crop is gone."

In our October Recorder we say of the Superb: 'September 15th, and just come in from our small Superb Raspberry patch, with a fine mess for our table. The berries are simply splendid—largest size, large lobes, small seeds and extremely delicious—in fact we believe it will prove a most desirable sort for home market and table use.' The originator, Mr. Churchman, says: 'After seven years trial, the Superb has now, in the opinion of the originator and all who have seen it in its several stages of growth and foliage, fully established its claim to superiority in all the points which go to make a perfect Raspberry; it is, as far as its proprietors have any knowledge of competing varieties, fully entitled to stand at the very head of the lists."

The points of merit claimed to be well established by experience are:

1. Size of Fruit.—The berries averaging, in the flush of the season, about six to the ounce—many being larger and measuring over an inch in diameter.

2. Flavor.—A sprightly sub-acid, not often found in Raspberries; rich and spicy.

3. COLOR.—A bright crimson when fully ripe—the most popular color in our market.

4. PRODUCTIVENESS.—The berries being fully equal in number to those of almost any of the smaller varieties, and in weight of fruit to the cane consequently incomparably greater.

5. EARLINESS AND LENGTH OF BEARING SEASON.—The fruit ripening as early as the earliest of red Raspberries, and continuing to bear after all other market varieties have done. Young canes often continue to bear until late in September.

6. CHARACTER AND APPEARANCE OF CANES.—Being of a strong vigorous growth, a beautiful pea green in color while growing, distinguishable from all others, changing to purple when mature, and almost entirely thornless.

7. AND LAST—though, as any grower will admit, not by any means least, HARDINESS.—Having withstood the trying ordeal of the comparatively mild but changeful winter and spring of 1879-80, so destructive to some other varieties, and the very long and severe one of 1880-81, with the loss of scarcely a cane out of several thousands.

I can now sell it at the reduced price of 40 cents each; 5 for $1.00 free by mail, if ordered early. If ordered late the price will be as stated on Page 11.

CRIMSON BEAUTY.

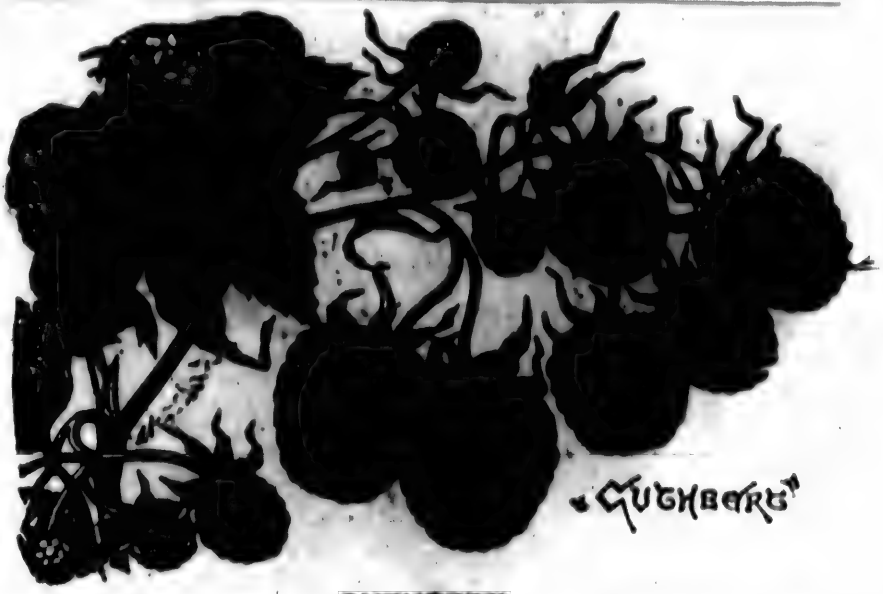
My plants of this variety, which I have not tested, all come from Mr. Purdy, who says of it:—

"This is a new seedling red Raspberry, grown by one of Kansas' best known fruit growers—Dr. Slayman, of Leavenworth, County. We received from him early in the season a letter, in which he wrote us as to this sort: 'I have a red Raspberry better in quality than any other we have grown or know of in this section, and I have fruited Cuthbert, Naomi or Lost Rubies, Turner, Superb, Brandywine, Reliance, Henrietta, Herstine, &c., &c. It is of very large size, bright glossy scarlet, round to oblongish; earlier than the Turner, of a more pleasant sprightly flavor, equally as hardy, more productive, and of much larger size. It is superior to any red Raspberry I have ever seen or grown, and the earliest of all—in fact, as near as I can judge from what is claimed for the Hansel, I believe it is but little, if any, behind it in ripening—judging from the time given for it (the Hansel) and making allowance for season of ripening there and here.' After a good deal of correspondence, we succeeded in obtaining the Doctor's stock for one thousand dollars. We are confident from all that we can learn of both sorts, and we have seen the plants and fruit of the "Marlboro," that it is not a whit behind that sort in productiveness, size, flavor, color, earliness and hardiness—in fact it was originated in the West and has been tested there as to the latter with winters far more severe than the Marlboro has ever passed through. We are willing to test it side of the Marlboro or any other sort for all points that are claimed for it, and will pay $1000 for 1000 plants planted beside 1000 plants that we have out next spring on our farm, or $100 for 100 plants planted side of 100 we have out, if it does not prove superior. The Western New York Horticultural Society to choose a committee to visit the plantation in 1884 and decide.

Every red Raspberry that has yet originated in the West has proved a success, and this fact alone speaks volumes in its favor.

We have for years been trying to get a red Raspberry even as large, productive and hardy as the Turner, but earlier and firmer, and are confident we have it in the Crimson Beauty."

Price—50 cents each; $5.00 per dozen.



CUTHBERT.

I have well tested this, and regard it as decidedly the most valuable of all tested varieties for market, as it is firm, large to very large, good color when first ripe, well-flavored, and enormously productive with good treatment; but it needs to be supplemented with an early berry, as it is medium to very late in ripening. It deserves to be in every family collection, also; but varieties like Turner and Herstine, which are too soft to ship far, ought to share largely in the family regard—especially as they are rather better flavored.

5 plants for 50c., $1 per dozen, free by mail; $2 per fifty, $3 per hundred, by express.

CAROLINE.

The best "white" Raspberry for those want a variety that will stand any winter and yield enormously of large, fine (but rather soft) fruit, without much bother and attention.

5 plants for 50c., $1 per dozen, free by mail.

LOST RUBIES.

Partly tested on my grounds, so that I have good hopes that it will carry out Mr. Green's claims, which are as follows:

"This famous berry, about which there has been so much said and written, has proved here to be the most profitable and delicious of its class, exceedingly vigorous and hardy, enduring the severe Winters of Canada and many Western States. It will not give the largest yields unless planted near Turner or some other suckering kind, and on poor sandy soil does not succeed so well as on strong loamy soil. Here it is truly grand. It has been claimed by Mr. Purdy to be the same as Naomi, also valuable, but the evidence of Charles Downing, J. J. Thomas, Egbert S. Carman, Parker Earle and others well qualified to judge, proves it to be entirely different. A friend sent us Naomis direct from those dug out of the originator's garden, which we have growing by the side of Lost Rubies, and we invite the whole world to come, see and be satisfied that the two are no more alike than a Newfoundland and a Bull dog. It begins to ripen early, continuing until quite late. It bears the first season planted."

Price 20 cents each, $2.00 per dozen, free by mail; but if ordered very early I can make quite a reduction, as I can take advantage of present wholesale prices—my own stock running short.

SOUHEGAN.

"The coming blackcap," accor[illegible] accounts of experienced men. In fact the only reliable men who do not figu[illegible] up their caps and hurrah for Souhegan, are a few who happened on the T[illegible] claim [illegible] in that variety. So far as I can see the very same claims [illegible] for the Tyl[illegible] that characterize the Souhegan, and I really think they will both prove most excellent—*possibly identical.*

Mr. Manning, Secretary of the Massachusett Horticultural Society, says:

"It has again fruited, this exceptionally dry season, and justifies our claim of superiority over all others of its class. It is again the very earliest, coming in just as the late strawberries go out. With good culture it will grow three quarters of an inch in diameter, often bearing 20 to 30 berries on a cluster, and carries well to market. It is of superior quality. We saw fruit gathered on Saturday that stood in boxes until Monday before sending to market, yet in condition to stand at least two days longer. It is a marvel to see the immense number of clusters of fruit, that a single cane will yield. A great number of fruit growers were slow to admit the merits of the Souhegan, who now regret the delay; but are ready to plant by the hundred or thousand now. One planter proposes to set twenty thousand, being convinced of its superior advantages —enduring the hardest winters, early ripening, quantity, size, quality, firmness, and popular

...showed three berries in eight. The duties pitching for eight years past cultivated in June, ... A Committee, Gentlemen of Worth were cheerfully awarded for a display of the Souhegan Rasp... by the Fruit Committee of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, where it was shown ... the first time in 1884. There is no higher authority than the approval of the above Society, ... where testimonials for fruit are desired.

It originated in the valley of the Souhegan River, N. H. Perfect in hardihood, unparalleled ... fruiting, often three-fourths of an inch in diameter, with 30 berries on a single ... cane, ripening very early. Cap known, of superior quality, a clear black color, ... by many fine varieties of the species."

I ... about this variety yet, but have great confidence in it.

... Souhegan or Tyler—25 cents each, 5 *for* $1.00, $2.00 per dozen, free ... mail.

SHAFFER'S COLOSSAL—(Of the "Cap" Family.)

Here's where you get it!—"The Largest Raspberry on Earth!"—as claimed by ... Mr. H. A. Green. It has not yet reached a fruiting season ... with me, but leads everything for growth on ... one-year plants. But I will let Mr. Green ... tell his own story:

"This large and productive variety was sent out last Spring. We can recommend it now with increased confidence, for it has been the only Red Raspberry that succeeded the past season, owing to the drouth. It yielded fully as much fruit as the Gregg, was much larger, and sold for 15 cents per quart, while the Gregg sold for 10 cents. It carries to market in excellent condition, and is on this account the only red variety that we pick in quart baskets, the others going in pints. We can recommend this variety to all desiring an abundance of valuable fruit with ordinary culture.

"The original plantation is in an adjacent town, on poor sand that will not produce other crops, yet even here its growth and productiveness is monstrous, 3,000 quarts having been picked the first season, and at high prices. We counted seventeen stout canes per plant on a number—canes two inches in ten feet high were common on a single plant."

We have received the following reports:

"Shaffer's is indeed a colossal. Berries larger than any I ever saw, of a purple hue. Shape ... round, like the Gregg. A strong grower and late berry. The plants were set out this ... from "tips" and have made a wonderful growth, many of them throwing up a shoot with ... clusters of fruit, which was just coloring."

"Chas. Teubner, Jefferson City, Mo."

"The Shaffer has done wonderfully well here. Spring set tips are bearing fruit more or less. ... should compare it with something of better quality than the Gregg. The plant of Shaffer ... the same vigorous as any in my collection, and has proved a good bearer; large, rich, purplish ... specially fine-flavored in quality—when fully ripe a little too dark for fastidious markets. ... fact that it never mildews adds to a point in its favor to the amateur."

"T. T. Lyon, President Michigan State Horticultural Society, South Haven, Mich."

"In reply to your inquiry, the two small plants of Shaffer's Colossal Raspberry which you ... kind enough to send me a year ago have done remarkably well. The plants are very vig... orous, quite productive, and apparently very hardy. Fruit larger than any of its class, a little ... soft, of a splendid, attractive red, fine flavor; quality, color not pleasing. W. C. Barry."

Rochester, N. Y.

"Shaffer's Colossal is medium to late; fruit very large; quite dark, but of excellent quality; hardy and very prolific."—*Field's Hand-Guide.*

"Shaffer's Colossal Raspberry is the largest I have seen this year."

"H. S. Anderson, Union Springs, N. Y."

"I am pleased with Shaffer's Colossal Raspberry. It is grand in growth, having July 1st canes eight feet high with numerous branches. The fruit is large, of medium quality, and if plucked before quite ripe will, I think, be firm enough for the market. It is a true hybrid, and affords another illustration of the facilities we have for improving the vigor, hardiness and productiveness of this class of fruits by cross fertilization."

"M. P. WILDER, Dorchester, Mass."

"The giant Raspberry "Shaffer" is now ripe. It is truly colossal in every way—it is huge! It occurred to me that it would be fine when cooked, so I [illegible] for my evening's Dreams of ambrosial fruits! I did not suppose a raspberry, fixed in what way you may, could be so rich and delicious. I am of the opinion that Shaffer has come to stay, it is so large and productive."

"JNO. T. LOVETT, Little Silver, N. J."

"Shaffer has done well with me. It is a wonderfully strong grower, entirely hardy so far, very productive, and the largest berry I have seen. I think it worthy of general cultivation."

"[illegible], Dunreith, Ind."

"Shaffer's Colossal Raspberry plants have grown [illegible] They far outstrip anything *on my grounds*, including all the leading varieties of Raspberries. The fruit is excellent and of large size. I predict for it a brilliant future. It stands our *hot summer admirably*." Truly,

"RAMSEY BROS., Hapeville, Ga."

Price—20 cents each; $2.00 per dozen, free by mail.

If ordered early I can make quite a reduction, and can also give low rates by the hundred or thousand.

GREGG BLACKCAP.

Decidedly the largest and best late blackcap that I know of. While particularly valuable for market, on account of its productiveness and extra firmness, it yet suits my taste better than either Mammoth Cluster or Davidson's Thornless, for the home supply. Where it succeeds I do not consider the Mammoth and Davidson worthy of garden room. It is true they are earlier, but I would rather wait for Gregg, and I now have confidence that either Tyler or Souhegan—perhaps both—will entirely fill the demand for a good early variety. The weak points of the Gregg are that it often refuses to grow well on sandy land, and that (on light soil especially, it seems) it sometimes freezes down in a severe winter. But its excellencies are so many and so great that on the poorest soil and in the severest climate it is worth testing in a small way—especially as it is now so cheap. 5 plants for 50 cents; $1.00 per dozen, free by mail; $5.00 per hundred by express. Apply specially for thousand rates, which will be quite low, if ordered early. (I do not think there is stock enough in America of this kind to supply the demand this spring, so that wholesale prices may go up soon. The season was so unfavorable for propagating this class of stock that my home-grown supply must quickly run out.)

TAYLOR'S PROLIFIC BLACKBERRY

This is the sort that I recommend from the test of experience. With me it is exceedingly productive of long, glossy, delicious fruit, of nearly the size and excellence of the Kittatinny; and, best of all, it is exceedingly hardy. I believe it will never winterkill anywhere in the older Provinces of Canada, at any rate in Ontario; but as accounts from the North-Western States speak of its occasional failure there, I fear it would not stand the climate of Manitoba. I therefore offer my customers in Manitoba and other equally rigorous climates, the McCracken and Stone's Hardy; which, though not so large apparently as the Taylor, are better able to stand a prairie "blizzard." Price of fine, well-rooted plants of the Taylor, grown from root-cuttings—10 cts. each; $1.00 per doz. (Apply specially for hundred or thousand rates.) I can supply sucker plants of Agawam at same rates.

EARLY HARVEST.

Not tested here—said to be very early and productive, though not large. 5 plants for 50c., $1.50 per dozen, for plants from root cuttings only, free by mail.

STAYMAN'S EARLY BLACKBERRY.

Not having seen either this or the McCracken, I again quote Mr. Purdy, from whom I get my plants:—

"Here we have found it at last—the *earliest* blackberry grown—combined with *hardiness*, *productiveness*, and *delicious flavor*. Dr. Stayman, the well-known fruit grower of Kansas, writes us under date of "Jan. 20, 1882. You speak as if Brunton's Early Blackberry was the earliest in existence, and make an offer to beat it. As that would be no inducement to let out two dozen plants, I do not feel like accepting it. That I have a blackberry earlier, more hardy, more productive and perfect in blossom, I have no doubt."

The above letter lead to a correspondence between us, and the following was received from the Dr. dated August 19th: "In answer to your card would say that my early blackberry ripens here *before* the Brunton's Early, and does not require any other plant near to fertilize it. It is a rather large, roundish-oblong berry, *of the best* quality. Plants propagate by either suckers, root cuttings or tip-layers, like the black raspberry."

In answer to still further enquiries, he writes us under date of October 17th, 1882: "In reply would say, it is not the Early Harvest for it *originated here*, and no plants have ever gone out of our hands. It grows much like a black raspberry in hills, and does not sucker much, and propagates from the tips of the new growth, just like the Black Raspberry. Neither is it a Dewberry or Running Blackberry, for it is not a trailer. It is undoubtedly a different species from the Dewberry or common blackberry. It grows very well from root cuttings."

Having known Dr. Stayman for years and trusting to his honour and judgment, and knowing that he had our Brunton's Early, and that a blackberry *as early* even as that and a self-fertiliser, and *hardy*, would be of inestimable value, we, after a good deal of correspondence—he being quite disinclined to sell out his stock—obtained the exclusive right to his plantation for three years. The fact that this variety increases from the tips, and suckers but little, gives it great value and makes it very desirable. The Dr. has kept the tops cut back, and hence has not layered it, because the fruit sold so high, and he was after that, and as it suckers but little—hence the small number of plants we obtained this year.

The Dr. writes us under the date of Nov. 3rd: "This blackberry is a great novelty—layering as it does and suckering so little, and growing so much in a hill or stool. But its greatest value is in ripening so early and bearing so profusely, and being of such a good quality—*far surpassing* any other sort. I know and I have tried all. Although you may think you have paid a higher price for it (it cost us about *one thousand dollars*, and we get but few plants this season) I believe you will find this the most profitable berry you ever handled, for if you do not sell a plant, it will be a profitable investment for your own planting and fruiting."

It will be understood that as this sort increases from the tips, it can be rapidly increased, so that on this account the price will not seem so high."

$1.00 each, $10 per dozen. No discount.

THE MOORACKEN.

We are always glad to welcome any new Blackberry that is likely to prove hardy through the North. Here is what Wm. McCracken, of Kansas, a [illegible] fruit grower, says of his new "foundling": "I found the blackberry now known as the Mooracken growing wild in the woods of Fulton County, Illinois, in the summer of 1869. It [illegible] my attention on account of its early ripening, abundance of fruit and quality of berry. I was convinced that it was a valuable berry, and after closely observing it for three years, during which time it annually produced an abundance of fruit I became convinced that it was well worthy of cultivating, removing to Kansas in 1872. I procured a number of plants of this berry with me. They were planted in the spring of 1873 and yielded [illegible] fruit every [illegible] season have been abundantly, and were again heavily loaded with fine berries, (1876.)

During this three [illegible] has partially failed at times, and a [illegible] to produce a crop of fruit. I have no hesitancy in recommending this berry as [illegible] superior to the Snyder, both in hardiness and productiveness, all other kinds having [illegible] killed more or less, while this kind has been uninjured. The [illegible] and of the best flavor. It has no core like the Lawton or Kittatinny. It ripens about one week before the Kittatinny. The fruit can be picked before fully ripe, which makes it especially valuable for the market."

50 cents each, $2.00 per dozen.

STONE'S HARDY.

This is another Blackberry that I only know from report; so to give a fair idea of its merits I quote again from Mr. Green; who, though evidently not the introducer, seems to know a good deal about it. He writes:—

"We have had this hardy variety growing here for several years. It appears hardy, productive and of fine quality. The Snyder has been the standard for hardiness, but in some localities the Snyder winter kills, therefore we welcome Stone's Hardy, which promises to be hardier.

The originator thus speaks of it:

"Stone's Hardy is a chance seedling which originated near Rockford, Ill. In the spring of 1874 I obtained a few roots of a friend who had been cultivating it in his garden four years, with excellent success. I bought some genuine Snyder roots the same spring, and set both here in Wisconsin, side by side, and have given them the same cultivation every year since without any Winter protection either. During the eight years I have had them side by side, Stone's Hardy has always passed through the Winter in better condition than the Snyder, which was twice killed to the ground, while the Hardy was injured only on the end of the branches. The crop of Snyder for these two years was a failure, but that of the Hardy was good. It is the universal opinion that the Hardy is more productive and better in quality than the Snyder. It is an upright and vigorous grower; the wood is stocky, short jointed ripens early, turns dark red and is very hardy. The berry is black and glossy when ripe and has a delicious flavor. It commences to ripen its fruit about five days later than the Snyder and continues bearing ten days longer; the fruit is well protected by the thick healthy foliage."

"J. S. Stickney says Stone's Hardy by the side of Snyder appeared more productive. He has great confidence in Snyder, but more in Stone's Hardy. He reports the quality better than Snyder." President J. M. Smith says: "If the bushes sent are a fair sample they indeed must be a show worth seeing. All agree that the quality of Stone's Hardy is excellent." Dr. John A. Warder says Stone's Hardy is wonderful productive.

Price 20 cents each, $2 per dozen.

GOOSEBERRIES.

DOWNING.

The best Gooseberry tested that can be grown in our climate without mildew. Price for 1-year plants, 15 cents each; 4 for 50 cents; free by mail; $1.25 per dor. by express. If to be sent post-paid, add 10c. per dor.

HOUGHTON.

This is the common garden gooseberry—very hardy, productive and suited to all soils—never mildews with fair treatment—berries pale red when ripe, but rather small when the crop is large—flavor excellent. Price 10 cents each, 6 for 50 cents, free by mail.

SMITH'S IMPROVED.

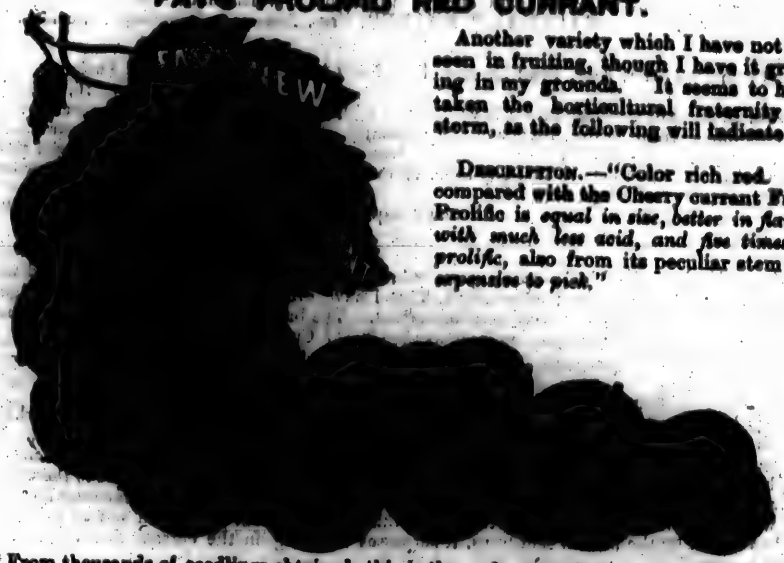
Good, green, about size of Downing and same price.

MOUNTAIN SEEDLING.

Large, red—larger than Downing—good, firm for market, free from mildew, a strong grower—not fully tested. Same price as Downing.

CURRANTS.

FAY'S PROLIFIC RED CURRANT.



Another variety which I have not yet seen in fruiting, though I have it growing in my grounds. It seems to have taken the horticultural fraternity by storm, as the following will indicate:

DESCRIPTION.—"Color rich red. As compared with the Cherry currant Fay's Prolific is *equal in size, better in flavor, with much less acid, and five times as prolific*, also from its peculiar stem *less expensive to pick*."

"From thousands of seedlings obtained, this is the only one which completely satisfied the originator. In obtaining size and prolificacy in Fay's Prolific he also obtained a spicy *flavor* with *much less acid* than in the Cherry currant. Also a space of *naked stem* between the upper berry and the attachment to the bush, which largely reduces the price of picking and prevents the crushing of upper berries in the work."

"It was originated 15 years since by the late Lincoln Fay of Portland, Chautauqua Co., N. Y., from a seedling of the Cherry and Victoria currants. The originator did not push the propagation of this variety for the purpose of forcing a *much needed, desirable* new variety on a willing public but during the past 8 or 9 years cultivated this variety alongside all the popular varieties, giving "Fay's Prolific" *no more care and cultivation* than has been afforded the rest, and before deciding to dispose of a single plant adopted this as his standard *market* variety."

"NEWBURG, N. Y., July 15th, 1880.

"DEAR SIR,—Your favor did not reach me until last Saturday, but the basket of currants came a day or two previous, which I was glad to see. They are very large and showy. As to 'Fay's Prolific' judging from the branch you sent me it indicates the most prolific bearer I have seen. The strings or clusters are very long, and hold their size well in proportion to the end. The clusters are much larger and longer than the cherry currant. As to quality, it appears to be about the same as the cherry currant. If the specimen sent me is a *fair* sample it promises to be valuable for market." Very resp'y,

"CHAS. DOWNING."

"For several years past we have heard of persons who were experimenting with seedling currants and that a number of them were evidently far ahead of any of the well-known kinds. Not however until within the last six weeks have we seen any specimens that seemed to justify such assertion. At about that time Mr. J. S. Josselyn, of Fredonia, N.Y., sent

to the Rural Office a box three feet long snugly filled with branches and fruit of a new variety of Red Currant, of one branch of which the engraving upon the first page is an almost exact representation. As will be seen, it is hardly possible for currants to be more thickly clustered, while in quality they were equal to any we have ever tasted and in size fully as large. In conclusion we beg to state that we never permit our advertising interests to influence us to the smallest extent one way or the other when an expression of opinion is called for regarding the value of any new fruit whatsoever. In truth we are only too glad to aid in the dissemination of new improved varieties, while we freely take the liberty of condemning those found wanting."—*Rural New Yorker, Sept. 18, 1880.*

"BOSTON, July 10th, 1880.

"DEAR SIR,—The currants arrived in good order. I infer from your note that the variety was raised from the cherry currant. If so the bunches are longer and its bearing qualities seem to be greater and its flavor in advance of its parent." With many thanks,

"Yours truly, MARSHAL P. WILDER, Pres. American Pomological Society."

(From Ira Porter, Esq., Fruit Grower, President Chaut. Co. Horticultural Society.)

"FREDONIA, Aug. 16, 1881."

"GEO. S. JOSSELYN—Dear Sir—I have watched with a good deal of interest for several years Fay's Prolific Currant, at the grounds of the originator. The first time I saw it (several years ago) I was greatly impressed with its wonderful bearing qualities and time has not changed those impressions. I do not believe that any other currant now known among us will be anywhere near as profitable to fruit growers."

"Yours resp'y, IRA PORTER."

"UNION SPRINGS, N. Y., July 9, 1880."

"Dear Sir—I received last evening by express, a basket of Fay's Currants in fine condition, and forming one of the finest displays of the kind I have ever seen. So far as I can judge I think it promises to excel any other sort for market. The bunches appear to be as long as those of the Victoria and the berries are as large as the Cherry Currant."

"Very truly, J. J. THOMAS."

(From *Fruit Recorder*, August, 1880—A. M. Purdy, Editor.)

"We have received from Lincoln Fay, of Chautauqua Co., specimens of the most remarkable red currant we have ever seen. Remarkable for its productiveness and size of berry. We counted *over thirty large clusters* on the branch received by us measuring fourteen inches in length. We give an *exact* representation of one cluster. The berry is equal in size to the Cherry Currant as grown by us while the stems are double in length on an average. We measured bunches that were from four to six inches in length. If this sort is *anywhere* in its yield and *all* the bushes yield as shown by the branch sent to us, it surpasses anything in the currant line we have yet grown or seen."

"BUFFALO, N. Y., Sept. 11, 1880."

"GEO. S. JOSELYN, ESQ.,—Dear Sir—Fay's Prolific currants are without any exception the finest currants we ever handled, selling readily from four to six cents per quart more than any other currants in this market, and we freely recommend them to all fruit growers."

"SNIGGS & STICKNEY, Gen. Produce and Commission Merchants."

(From Jonas Martin, largest fruit grower near Centerville, Town of Portland, N. Y.)

"Dear Sir—I have seen Fay's Prolific Currant in bearing I think nearly every year during the past six or eight years. They are in my estimation more productive and excel in general good qualities all other varieties inasmuch as I have never seen any other currant and never heard of any other which bears anything like so large a crop. As compared with the Cherry Currant I think Fay's Prolific bears four to five times as much."

"JONAS MARTIN."

As MOORE'S RUBY is now withdrawn from the market, because of insufficient stock, the Fay is the only new Red Currant claiming our attention. We seem to be more in want of a really good, large, productive Red Currant than any other fruit that can be named—except perhaps a very large Gooseberry—so that if this Currant is anything like as good as is claimed for it, it will certainly be a great acquisition.

By special agreement with Mr. Josselyn, the introducer, I am able to offer choice well-grown plants by retail as low as his own prices, viz.: $1 each, $10 per dozen, for 1-year plants, free by mail; $1.50 each, $15 per dozen, for 2-year plants, by express.

Black Currants.—Of these, Lee's Prolific—price, 50 cts. for 5 plants; $1 per dozen; and Black Naples—6 for 50 cts.; 15 for $1—both 1-year plants, free by mail—are by far the best in the market. Both should be in every garden, as the former is early and the latter late; and while the Lee, though generally the best, sometimes fails, the Naples seems always to succeed, on clayey or loamy soil. It is hardly worth while to go to the expense of two-year plants of Black Currants or Gooseberries, as one-year stock, if well-rooted, grows as well. My plants will grow, if fairly treated, but *don't try to grow Black Currants on sandy land*, or on soils naturally very dry.

GRAPES.

MOORE'S EARLY.

I think the only advantage we are likely to find this possesses over the Worden is its ripening a week to ten days earlier. It is also a seedling of the Concord. Though I think it is as fully as healthy as Worden, I do not consider it quite as strong a grower. A further difference will doubtless appear in the berries being slightly larger and the bunch averaging somewhat smaller. The quality is stated to be as like Concord as possible; but that is where Concord ripens to its full measure of sweetness: here we should probably find it much better in nine seasons out of ten. Even in New York city, a reliable horticulturist recently stated that he purchased a bunch of Moore's which he could find no Concords in market to equal—either in size of berry or in quality. That reliable authority on the vine—G. W. Campbell of Ohio—speaks of it as "better than the Hartford or Talman (Champion), which have been tolerated by a much suffering people, only on account of their one merit of earliness." The Champion or (Talman) has been for three or four years greatly praised for its earliness. It was even sent out with great laudation as the Beaconsfield, but it is greatly inferior to Moore's Early in size and appearance, as well as in quality; therefore, as the Moore ripens as early, it is a pity to set out Champion any more where the Moore will stand the climate. As the Champion however, may be slightly hardier, I offer it for the benefit of Manitoba customers.

Prices—Moore's Early, 50 cents each, $5 per dozen free by mail, for good 1-year Vines; larger 1-year Vines by express at same price.

Champion, one year vines at same rate as Worden.
" two " same price as Moore's Early.

I should state here that I have tested the fruit of Champion on my own grounds and elsewhere, and have fruited slightly the Worden, but have not yet tasted the Moore's Early. The Champion bunch is only about half the size of Concord, and the berry about two-thirds the size—on my grounds, only about half the size of the the Worden. It does not taste so bad, when you can't get anything else; but just put it in your mouth after Lady or Worden—Oh, my!—you don't go there again!!

LADY.

The one white grape—of all tested sorts—for districts where the winters are cold and the summers short. With me this year it ripened with Champion, was considerably larger in both berry and bunch, and tasted very good indeed. The skin is too tender to ship far; and where the summers are long enough to properly ripen the Concord, the Prentiss and Pocklington certainly should be planted; yet even there the Lady will hold its own for its earliness—unless the new Jessica proves so extra good and early as to stand first. But plant the Lady now, whatever the future may show, because it is tested and its price within easy reach. Good one year vines 40 cents each; $3.50 per dozen, free by mail.

POCKLINGTON.

Claimed to be the largest in bunch and berry of all white grapes—a good grower, keeper and shipper, and hardier withal than its parent Concord. Some that I had sent me were certainly magnificent in appearance, and the quality pleased me too. Sweeter and better than the Lady as grown with me, and better for market. Time of ripening, with Concord—perhaps a day or two earlier. Price, $1.50 each for 1-year vines.

EARLY VICTOR.

Mr. Campbell says of this in his catalogue:

"EARLY VICTOR. One of the hardiest, healthiest, and most productive varieties known, and will doubtless take and retain a place among the most reliable and profitable Grapes. It is one of the very earliest, and seems to possess every desirable requisite for a garden, vineyard and market grape. It is purely flavored then Concord, Moore's Early or any other native early black Grape. I believe it will be found suited to all localities where the Concord class of Grapes succeed; and will, as soon as known and introduced, take the place of Hartford, Talman, and all similar abominations, as a reliable, healthy, and exceedingly productive Grape, which ripens with the earliest, and will rank in quality as the best of its class. It hangs well to the vine, without falling from the cluster, even when over ripe. It has also been tested for wine-making, and found to make a red, or claret wine of fine quality."

The pure native origin of this grape is a great point in favor of its healthiness and general adaptability to different locations and soils; while the fact that it is the production of the veteran John Burr, who long ago originated [illegible] standards of quality among strawberries—Burr's New Pine—is an additional guarantee of good quality.

As I have not seen it yet I will further quote—taking Mr. Burr's own account:

"In offering this new Grape to the public, I will state that after nine years of fruiting, it is found to possess those most important qualities, perfect hardiness, healthfulness, great vigor, and enormous productiveness, without the least sign of mildew on leaf or fruit, or bursting of the fruit (when ripe) after rains, (to which most kinds are subject); bunch and berry medium size, tender, sweet, rich and pure flavored; berry round, black, covered with fine blue bloom, making a very handsome, compact and attractive bunch. It ripens very early, quite two weeks before the Concord, and one before Moore's Early, the quality far superior to either. It also makes a fine, high-flavored wine of great excellence.

It is being tested in ten different States, accounts from all of which show its very healthy and vigorous growth. It has fruited in Missouri, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Connecticut, and proves entirely successful. I have no doubt it can be grown anywhere where grapes can be grown successfully, and is the grape for the million."

TESTIMONIALS.

"FRIEND BURR: The box of grapes received. The Victor still, in my opinion, the best. It is a real treasure in itself.

"BLUFFTON, Mo., August 20, 1880.
SAM'L. MILLER."

"I regard the Early Victor, as far as tested, as the best and most promising early black grape that I have ever seen. I have grown it four years and fruited it twice. It has always made a good and perfectly healthy growth, with a strong, thick, native foliage of the Labrusca type; in quality rich, pleasant and sprightly, with small seeds and very little pulp; fine flavored, without astringency or coarseness; it shows no tendency to fall from the cluster when over ripe. It is very early in ripening, I believe earlier than Hartford, or Moore's Early, or any other Black variety I have grown.

DELAWARE, OHIO. GEO. W. CAMPBELL."

"Samuel Miller to Prof. Husman, and Published in Rural World":

FRIEND HUSMAN,—The Early Victor Grape, grown from seed by JOHN BURR, of Leavenworth, Kansas, is certainly the best of the early black grapes that has come to my notice; bunch, medium to pretty large; berry, size of Isabella; black, with handsome blue bloom; pulp soft and sweet, as well as rich; thin skin; the vine is vigorous, healthy foliage, and uncommonly productive. It ripens about a week before the Hartford."

"The samples of Early Victor Grapes came to hand in fine condition, and I am much pleased with their quality, which is very pure and refined."

August 19, 1882.

"J. T. LOVETT."

By special agreement with Mr. Burr I am able to offer fine stock at his own retail prices, viz:—

Strong 1-year Vines, $1 each, by mail.

THE WORDEN.

Don't ask me to call you the Concord—in fact, don't give it garden-room, if you get it for nothing—now that the Worden is thoroughly tested and low enough in price to be within the reach of all. It is true it is not much ahead of the Concord in any one particular; only a little longer, just somewhat sweeter and better to the taste, mostly about a week earlier; but put these advantages all together, and consider their increased degree as we come northward—where the cold fogs of ripening time hinder the coloring of the Concord, and even frequently keep it from getting sweet when it looks ripe—and we must consider the Worden, with its equal hardiness and productiveness, to be much more valuable to us—whatever it may be where the season is longer. Good one year vines 20 cents each, $2.00 per doz. by mail post-paid. Larger Vines of same age by express at these rates.

JEFFERSON.

The best red grape I can get any knowledge of—for market, or for the family—wherever the season is long enough to ripen the Concord. In fact, I question if there is any grape—red, white, or black—that presents such a combination of excellencies. This is my opinion from a wide survey of horticultural gossip—but not from experience. Trees, in pleasure me in its fine healthy growth on my grounds, and specimens sent late in January by Mr. Burrow, at my request, were most delicious, although the poorest culls which he had kept for his own use, but I have not seen the fruit on the vine yet.

"President Wilder, writing under date of Dec. 30th, 1881, says, in acknowledging receipt of a package of JEFFERSON fruit: "They were delicious, fully confirming the opinion that our American grapes would certainly equal or surpass those of foreign lands. This is seen already in the excellence of several kinds, and as time advances we shall see more and more the wonderful influence of cross-fertilization in ameliorating the rank fox aroma of our species, and giving us one which in my esteem surpasses the Muscats of the old world. The Jefferson is a very good keeper, and I have now before me, Dec. 30th, two of the bunches which you had the kindness to send me, in very fair condition." Yours, very truly,

"MARSHALL P. WILDER."

St. Catharines' Nurseries, Ont., Feb. 1st, 1882."

"The JEFFERSON grape is one of which it seems to me too much cannot easily be said in its favor. The originator states that it is a cross between the Concord and Iona, and hence has no foreign blood that would likely to make it subject to mildew as so many of the hybrids are. The wood and foliage bear a strong resemblance to the Concord, from which it seems to have inherited a strong robust constitution, a vigorous habit, a hardiness that enables it to endure a great deal of cold without injury, and great productiveness. The leaves are large, thick and downy, just such as best resist the attacks of insects and mildew. The bunches are very large, double shouldered and very compact, the berries are large, light red, with a thin lilac bloom which gives them a very attractive appearance. The flesh is meaty, quite free from pulpiness, juicy, sweet, and having a most delicious spicy flavor. It is the nearest approach to the Iona of any grape I have tasted, which is the highest praise that I can possibly bestow. There is no foxiness whatever, no tough pulp, in short nothing to detract from its excellent quality. It ripens a very few days after the Concord, but so few that it will doubtless succeed where the Concord will ripen. I am confident that this grape will attain a great popularity and become one of our most profitable market sorts."

"D. W. BEADLE."

George W. Campbell of Delaware, Ohio, says: "The quality of the Jefferson Grape is entirely satisfactory. Indeed I have seen no native red grape the flavor of which pleases me so well. To my taste it is superior to the Iona; and if it proves generally hardy, healthy, and productive, it will merit a cordial reception from all Grape-growers, and will doubtless, command an extensive sale. There can be no question as to the beauty and excellence of the fruit; and if the character of the vine proves satisfactory, it must rank as one of our best and most valuable Grapes." Yours truly,

"GEO. W. CAMPBELL."

What Charles Downing Says of it: "Jefferson.—Vine very vigorous, very hardy, and productive, leaves large, thick, downy; wood short-jointed, bunch very large, often double shouldered, very compact; berries large, roundish-oval, light red, with a thin lilac bloom; flesh meaty or solid, tender, juicy, sweet, slightly vinous, spicy—best for market."

MASSACHUSETTS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

"BOSTON, Mass., Sept. 27th, 1869.

Dear Sir:—At the request of the Fruit Committee, I send the enclosed card showing that a First Class Certificate of Merit was awarded for the Jefferson Grape, at the recent Annual Exhibition of the Society. The Certificate will be prepared and sent to you after the report of the Committee is made to the Society. Yours truly, ROBERT MANNING, Sec. M. H. S."

(Office of SPIRIT of ARKANSAS—S. H. Nowlin, Editor and Proprietor.)

"LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Oct. 1st, 1869.

"J. G. Burrow Esq. Dear Sir:—At the great Fruit Exhibition of the Mississippi Valley Horticultural Society (which perhaps you are aware was the largest and most comprehensive exhibit of American fruits ever held in America) there were on exhibition 240 varieties of American grapes. I was one of the judges of the Grape Exhibition. The Jefferson was one of the very best on exhibition, and met with great praise.

"Yours respectfully, S. H. NOWLIN."

(From the COUNTRY GENTLEMAN—By John J. Thomas, Union Springs, N. Y., Associate Editor Country Gentleman.)

"The Jefferson Grape.—We have received specimens of this grape from J. G. Burrow, of Fishkill, N. Y., its proprietor. This is one of the finest of Rickett's Seedlings, and has the advantage of being purely a native, a cross between Concord and Iona. The vine is vigorous and hardy, the bunch is large, shouldered and compact; the berries, large, light red, nearly the color of the Iona; flesh tender, sweet and rich, slightly vinous and aromatic. It must take a high stand for the three qualities of vigor and healthiness in the vine, handsome appearance and excellence in quality. From its firm skin we infer that it would carry and keep well."

(From Rev. R. A. Waterbury, Prof. in State Normal School.)

"GENESEO, N. Y., Sept. 4th, 1869.

"J. G. Burrow. Dear Sir:—The season from June 15th to August 25th has been intensely dry, and as a consequence most vines set this spring have made but little growth. The Jefferson has grown three feet, and stopped growth at that point early in August and has ripened its wood well. Since the heavy showers of August 25th to 31st, succeeded by very hot sun, very many varieties on my grounds have mildewed somewhat, but the foliage of the Jefferson is perfectly free from mildew thus far, and of a bright healthful color, and equals the Concord in that respect."

"Yours, R. A. WATERBURY."

"BOSTON, Mass., Dec. 24th, 1870.

"Mr. J. G. Burrow. Dear Sir: In reply to yours of yesterday, regarding the JEFFERSON, I would say, I can speak of the quality of the fruit most emphatically. I consider the fruit the best of any out-door grape I have ever eaten—even excelling the Iona. I shall be very glad to have some of the vines of the Jefferson in the Spring, say half a dozen. If my land was not so limited I should like at least a dozen, but have not the room for so many of one sort."

"Yours truly, WM. H. WILCOX."

(From the Editor of the American Wine and Grape Grower.)

"Mr. J. G. Burrow has purchased Mr. Rickett's new Grape, the JEFFERSON, and has taken several prizes at the various fairs, where it has been on exhibition. As a table grape it is much superior to the Catawba, being less acid and more spicy and delicately flavored, with only the slightest foxiness. As a wine grape, it is yet to be tested, though we should think it fully equal, if not superior, to the Iona."

(Office of the HOOKER NURSERIES.)

"ROCHESTER, N. Y., Oct. 17th, 1869.

"J. G. Burrow. Dear Sir:—The Jefferson fruit you sent me has proved very fine, and as several good judges have tried it, and all agree that it is up to the BEST, I feel sure, if the vine is a good grower, and will produce fruit of this grade, it must take a high rank. I did not suppose it was of such excellent quality." Yours respectfully,

"H. E. HOOKER."

Price—$1 each, $10 per dozen, for strong, well-rooted 1-year vines, by mail post paid; fine 2-year vines $1.50 each, $15 per dozen, by express. (Add 2 cts. each for 2-year vines if wanted by mail.)

PRENTISS.

Specimens that I tested were exceedingly fine, without any of the foxiness that characterizes more or less every grape yet named on this list except the Jefferson and Early Victor. It is larger too than I expected to find it—some berries measuring three-quarters of an inch in diameter, while the average was about five-eighths. For a pure native, its quality is unusually fine. It ripens no earlier than Concord. Price—$1.00 each; $10.00 per dozen; free by mail, for about the choicest best-rooted one-year Vines I have ever seen. Two-year Vines, $1.50 each; but although these are fine, the one-year sample is better value for the money.

VERGENNES.

I select this as probably the best purely native red Grape for cultivation wherever the season is too short for Isabella; and, on account of its earliness, it should be tried even where the Jefferson succeeds. As I have no personal experience with it yet, I must again quote.

P. L. Perry says of this Sort: "The Vergennes Grape originated at Vergennes, Vt., and is without doubt, our Grape for the million.

1st.—It is a hardy vine, and a better grower than the Concord.

2nd.—It is wonderfully productive, and has a broad, thick, hardy leaf.

3rd.—It ripens with the Hartford Prolific, and is the best shipping grape I know of.

4th.—It keeps all winter in any ordinary cool room or cellar, and then can be dried into a perfect raisin.

5th.—The bunch and berries are large, in color like the Catawba, only a shade lighter and very handsome.

6th.—The flavor is delicious, and so like the Isone that every one familiar with that variety at once notices the same rich, vinous, sprightly, refreshing taste, that makes one wish for just one more bunch. The pulp entirely dissolves in the mouth. The seeds are few and small.

For the family or for vineyardists, it will prove of the greatest value, and he who plants early of this variety will plant wisely. Mr. Greene, of Vermont, describes it as follows:

The "Vergennes" Grape is a chance seedling found growing in my garden, where there are more than twenty varieties in bearing. Its vigorous growth and healthy appearance induced me to let it remain until it fruited. It has now been in bearing five years, and has proved to be extremely productive: Clusters large, berries large, holding firmly to the stems; color light amber, flavor rich and delicious, ripening here full as early as the Hartford Prolific, and its keeping qualities are superior to those of any other variety I know of. I had the fruit the middle of March almost as fresh as when picked.

The vine is a very hardy, strong, rapid grower, and has always made from 10 to 16 feet of wood in a season. The leaf large, downy, and free from mildew; consequently it has ripened more wood than any of my other varieties."

G. W. Campbell, already quoted as a reliable authority, says:—

"Having fruited this variety the past season, I am glad to say I think it has not been over-rated. It is a really good grape, and better than I expected. I cannot do better than to repeat the following description by Gen. W. H. Noble, of Connecticut, where the grape is said to have originated: 'For hardiness, vigorous growth, large, bounteous fruitage, a fruit of the richest tint of blended pink and purple bloom: for its yield of wine with the most delicate aroma: for its early maturity of wood and fruit: for its long-keeping quality, lasting in excellence beside the apple on our table; I think this the equal of any American grape yet grown. I say this in great tenderness towards all its native rivals.'"

Price—$1.00 each for 1-year vines, by mail post paid; 2-years, $1.50 each by express.

JESSICA.

Having received inquiry respecting this latest novelty in the vineyard, I have made arrangements with Mr. Beadle—who controls the whole stock—enabling me to supply my customers at his retail price, viz.: $2 each for 2-year Vines, by mail, post paid. I have not seen it. The following extracts from Mr. Beadle's account, and his list of testimonials will index its value:—

"I take great satisfaction in calling your attention to this most delicious Grape. I have watched it for a great many years, until I have become satisfied that it is decidedly the best White Grape yet grown. It ripens very early, among the earliest we have; it is very sweet, free from all foxiness, with very little pulp, sprightly and aromatic. The color is a yellowish green, gradually mellowing to a clear amber."

"The vine is a native Canadian, perfectly hardy in our climate, free from disease and enormously productive. A vineyard of about two hundred vines, in bearing for some time, has never failed to yield a heavy crop. The fruit sells at the highest price, and brought this past season, at wholesale, two hundred dollars per ton."

Boston, Sept. 28, 1882.

"*My Dear Sir:*—Thanks for the Jessica Grapes. From your description of it as to its extreme earliness, its hardiness, vigor and productiveness, and from an examination of the samples sent, I should think it would prove to be a valuable acquisition. Its pulp is remarkably free from hardness, and to my taste entirely free from the aroma of our native species. It resembles in its appearance the Chasselas type and affords another illustration of the progress which has been made in the improvement of the grape in our own day. Yours as ever,

MARSHALL P. WILDER."

(*From the President of the North Grenville Horticultural Association of Ontario.*)

ARNPRIOR, Prince Edward Co., Ont., Sept., 1891.

"D. W. BEADLE, Esq., St. Catharines Nurseries:

Dear Sir,—I must thank you for the samples of your new white grape "Jessica." It is simply delicious. In quality it is of the very best. And then it ripens so very early. Besides it is a Canadian grape, and will no doubt be hardy. Everybody will want such an excellent grape.

Yours truly, P. C. DEMPSEY."

Rochester, N. Y., Oct. 3, 1891.

"FRIEND BEADLE,—The box with samples of Jessica grapes came safely to hand. The quality of the fruit, and its fine flavor pleased me very much and if it is so early as you say, would prove a very acceptable companion to the Delaware. Yours truly, E. S. HOUGH."

LINDLEY.

I take pleasure in calling attention to this grand old fruit, which is commonly known as Rogers' No. 9 (incorrectly stated as No. 8 in my issue of last Fall). Whenever it can be grown free from mildew and thrip it will give great satisfaction, and it seems about as free as any of Roger's hybrids, which are among the healthiest of all hybrids. Both M. P. Wilder and P. Barry—presidents respectively of the American Pomological Society and the Western New York Horticultural Society—speak of the fruit in the highest terms. Mr. Barry says there is no better grape; and it is related that a number of horticulturists had placed before them delicious berries of this sort and of the Delaware, which is usually considered the standard of excellence—large Delawares and small Lindleys being used, so as to be all of a size—and a majority preferred the Lindley. Sooner or later I believe the Jefferson, Vergennes, or some other native grape growing as good as either claim to be, must stand first; because of the greater healthiness, hardiness and reliability for all districts of the pure native strain; but meantime, as this is so good, early and cheap, let us all eat Lindleys wherever the vine will grow and fruit. It is a vigorous grower where it succeeds, and a good keeper. At Owen Sound it succeeds well, and a few bunches presented me about the middle of January by the gentlemen who propagates my vines had lost none of their delicious quality, and were only slightly shrivelled—though kept only in a paper bag in the pantry. It ripens about with the Hartford Prolific: color, red. Price for extra choice well-rooted two-year Vines, 20c. each; $2 per dozen, by express. Smaller Vines of same age at same price, by mail, post paid; but extra large Vines will be mailed for 2c. each extra, for extra postage and moss.

Other vines of Roger's varieties, worthy of special mention, are Nos. 15 (Agawam) and 22 (Salem), which will be furnished at any time at the same rate. But any variety whatever of Roger's Hybrids can be supplied at the same figures, if ordered early.

DELAWARE.

I claim to send out the best vines in Canada of this choice variety, which, as all know who have tried it, is exceedingly hard to propagate. I do not at all think I have enough experience to grow such fine fibrous-rooted stock myself, as I secure for my customers from the veteran vineyardist in Owen Sound, of whom I have spoken before. As usually grown, even when well grown, the plants are about only half the size of Concord and Rogers. Those I offer are of course not as large as the sample of Rogers grown with the same skill, but are about the size of the ordinary Rogers and Concords in the country. Order early, or the stock may run out, and if I have to fill my latest with poorer stock from a distance the price will not be any lower.

The Delaware, as is well known, is the sweetest of all out-door grapes; and, though small, is one of the handsomest. The only trouble about it is to get the vine *to make good growth*, and to thin out the fruit to prevent exhaustion of the vine. Put it on loamy soil in a fair grape region; keep it from overbearing; cultivate well; and it will ripen early and prove "A thing of beauty and a joy forever." But inquire of neighboring horticulturists as to their success, before planting more than a vine or two; because in some sections it mildews and fails from delicate constitution. At Owen Sound it does royally, and in the Toronto, Hamilton and Niagara districts, and many other places it gives great satisfaction, *with careful treatment.*

Price of two-year Vines, 35c. each; 3 plants for $1, free by mail. Larger plants by express.

NOTE.—One-year Delawares are always too small to send out satisfactorily.

A SERIES OF
SPECIAL OFFERS.

EVERY season customers are specially urged to order early; but the advice seems of little use—owing I suppose to a general idea that the only advantage of ordering thus is the early filling of the nurseryman's pockets. Now I want to give an extra blast to this dragging question, by making the advantage to my patrons clear, so plain, that considerations of dollars and cents will lead them to send in orders before the mere goes off! Perhaps I can make my reasons for doing this so plain too that common sense as well as the pocket-book will expedite business.

There are many kinds of stock that are very scarce this season; in fact I find more or less hard to get hold of in quantity every season, owing to unfavorable propagating weather or an extra demand in one locality or another. Added to this, many new kinds are entirely in the hands of a few firms,—sometimes all controlled by one man. Now the rule with wholesale men as well as retail dealers, is to fill all bills of sale in the order in which they are received, and naturally the best plants are put up first; so that if the demand is large only culls are left at the last, and sometimes prices are raised on these. Of course I want to give my customers the best plants in the market, in order to have their custom in other seasons as well as this; of course I want to take advantage of low prices for choice stock at first; and I do not want to pay out cash for such stock before I know how much there will be demand for, and so have a lot left on my hands unsold; or to send out lots of plants that have wasted their strength in sprouting before ordered. Added to all this, I want to know how many plants will be needed for my retail trade, so that, of varieties I have grown largely, I can job off the extra stock by wholesale to other firms that have run short—for some men are sure to be late with their business. Have I said enough to show the extreme mutual advantage of early orders, not counting the advantage to me of early cash? Well then, here I offer an equal advantage to you, to counterbalance this also:

Offer No. 1.—Strawberries for the Family.
(Suitable for Light Land.)

100	Crescent Seedling—very early and productive—Catalogue price	$1 00
100	Sharpless Seedling—very large—Catalogue price	1 00
1	Doz. Boston Queen—very large and productive—Catalogue price	0 50
1	" Windsor Chief—very late and productive— " "	0 50
1	" Miner's Prolific—very large and productive— " "	0 40
	Total value at Catalogue prices	$3 30

All for $2.50 by express; or $2.75 by mail, post-paid.

Offer No. 2.—Strawberries for the Family.
(For Heavy or Loamy Soil.)

100	Bidwell—new, large, productive and fine—Catalogue price	$1 50
100	Sharpless—Catalogue price	1 00
1	Doz. Boston Queen "	0 50
1	" Pearly—exceedingly beautiful and productive where it succeeds,	0 40
1	" Duncan—early and very delicious	0 40
	Catalogue value	$3 80

All for $2.50 by express; or $2.75 by mail, post-paid.

OFFER No. 3.—FOR HOME USE AND MARKET.

100	Bidwell	$1 50	All for $7.00 by express only.
200	Sharpless	2 00	
200	Crescent	3 00	
3	Doz. Seneca Queen	1 00	
6	Manchester	0 75	
6	James Vick	1 00	
100	Glendale	1 00	
100	Windsor Chief		
	Catalogue value	$13 25	

OFFER No. 4.—MARKET.

2000	Crescent	$10 00	All for $25.00 by express only.
2000	Sharpless	15 00	
1000	Bidwell	5 00	
500	Windsor Chief	2 50	
500	Glendale	2 50	
		$35 00	

OFFER No. 5.—COLLECTION OF NEW VARIETIES.

Doz.	Bidwell	$2 25	All for $5.00 by express, or $5.25 by mail, post paid, with extra good packing.
"	Manchester	0 75	
"	James Vick	1 00	
"	Prime	0 50	
"	Jersey Queen	0 50	
"	Longfellow	0 50	
"	Shirk	0 25	
"	Big Bob	1 00	
"	Old Iron Clad	1 00	
"	Loree	1 00	
"	Piper's Seedling	0 50	
		$7 25	

OFFER No. 6.—RASPBERRIES FOR THE FAMILY.

1	Doz. Highland Hardy—earliest Raspberry tested, and very hardy	$0 50	All for $3.50 by express, or $4 by mail; with extra packing.
3	" Turner—hardiest Raspberry in existence and very sweet and good—a fine grower	2 00	
1	" Herstine—hardiest and best of the large foreign class, very fine	1 00	
1	" Cuthbert—new, large, late, hardy and very productive	1 00	
1	" Gregg—best large late Blackcap	0 50	
		$4 50	

OFFER No. 7.—RASPBERRIES FOR FAMILY AND MARKET.

20	Highland Hardy	$1 00	All for $10, by express only.
100	Turner	3 00	
100	Herstine	4 00	
50	Cuthbert	2 00	
50	Gregg Blackcap	1 50	
Doz.	Souhegan—new, best early Blackcap	1 00	
"	Caroline—white or yellow—very hardy and productive	0 50	
"	Shaffer's Colossal—new, "the largest Raspberry in the world"	1 00	
		$14 00	

OFFER No. 8.—FOR MARKET.

2000	Turner	$16 00	All for $45, by express.
1000	Herstine	15 00	
1000	Cuthbert	15 00	
500	Gregg	11 00	
50	Souhegan	5 00	
		$62 00	

OFFER No. 9.—COLLECTION OF NEW RASPBERRIES.

3 Plants	Hansell	$1 00	All for $4.50 by express; or $4.75 by mail, post paid.
3 "	Lost Rubies	0 50	
3 "	Superb	1 00	
3 "	Crimson Beauty	1 50	
3 "	Shaffer's Colossal	0 50	
3 "	Souhegan	0 50	
3 "	Tyler	0 50	
3 "	Caroline	0 25	
		$5 75	

Offer No. 10.—Grapes for the Family in most Unfavorable Districts.
(One-Year Vines.)

4 Moore's Early—large, black, hardy, very early	$2 00	All for $3.50 by express; or $3.75 by mail, post paid.
4 Worden—black, excellent, hardy, ripens just after Moore's Early	1 00	
4 Lady—earliest hardy white grape tested—very reliable	1 00	
	$4 00	

Offer No. 11.—Collection of New Grapes.

1 Vine Jefferson—one year old, fine	$1 00	All for $6.50 by express; or $6.75 free by mail, with extra packing.
1 " Vergennes— " "	1 00	
1 " Early Victor " "	1 00	
1 " Prentiss " "	1 00	
1 " Lady Washington "	1 50	
1 " Duchess	1 50	
1 " Janice	1 00	
1 " Pocklington	1 50	
	$10 50	

Notice the following conditions that are positively necessary in order to get the advantage of these very low offers:

1st.—Your order must arrive before March 1st. (If a day or two late I will make allowances, if it was posted in time—provided I have not completed arrangements for stock with wholesale men.)

2nd.—Cash must be sent with the order.

3rd.—Purchaser must pay express charges of plants that go by express.

4th—No alteration can be made in any of the lists given without special agreement with me; and even then the charge will be slightly extra to cover extra labor of booking and changing packing lists.

In case my customers want a different assortment to any arranged in the foregoing offers or want any stock whatever not therein named, they may deduct *ten per cent.* from catalogue prices, if ordered in February, or *five per cent.* if ordered in March—cash with order in either case. (This rule will apply to potatoes, &c.) But there are some plants, which, by special understanding with the introducers, I must not sell below their figures; these are the James Vick Strawberry, Hansell and Crimson Beauty Raspberries, Stayman's Early Blackberry, Fay's Prolific Currant, Jessica and Early Victor Grapes. For plants of these varieties therefore, no discount can be made on Catalogue prices. But to make up for this restriction, I am in a position to offer much greater reductions on some other varieties that I have in quantity, or can secure on reasonable terms, wholesale—as will be seen further on.

All orders will be answered by receipt on post card, or by letter, within three days; so if you don't hear from me promptly, write to know the reason—that I may look it up and have everything running smooth before the packing season.

Orders filled in rotation, so that the first orders to reach me in February will receive the advantage of whatever difference there may be in my choicest stock. Of course no plants will be sent till the ground is clear of snow and frost—which will probably be between April 1st and 10th.

I have secured an extra fine sample of Prentiss and Jefferson ONE-YEAR-OLD VINES, direct from the original introducers. I would rather have them than two-year vines at the same money, as when so healthy and vigorous they start into better growth. Of Moore's Early and Lady I will have a somewhat smaller size to send by mail; but my patrons may feel free to order one year vines by mail, as instead of sending out the smallest runts that often come in a wholesale consignment, I plant them out myself and nurse them—sending out to my patrons only such plants as I would not be afraid to meet again. But any customers, who in view of these facts, may still desire two-year vines, will be cheerfully supplied—especially as there is usually more profit to me on the two year sample!

As some of my new customers may not send for and get my catalogue in February, or may not find it possible to send the money before March 1st, I arrange the foregoing offers below, showing the catalogue price, and also the price I will accept in March, as well as February, in such cases:

Offer No. 1,	Catalogue Price	$3 20,	Price during Feb.	$2 00,	Price during Mar. $2 75
" 2	"	3 80	"	2 50	" 3 20
" 3	"	11 25	"	7 00	" 9 50
" 4	"	38 00	"	25 00	" 32 00
" 5	"	7 25	"	5 00	" 6 00
" 6	"	4 50	"	3 50	" 4 25
" 7	"	14 00	"	10 00	" 12 00
" 8	"	62 00	"	45 00	" 52 50
" 9	"	5 75	"	4 50	" 5 25
" 10	"	4 00	"	3 50	" 4 00
" 11	"	10 50	"	8 50	" 9 50

Nos. 1 and 6 to the same address, Catalogue Price $7.20, Price during Feb. $5.00; Price during March $6.00.

These are prices by express. If any of these are to be sent by mail at March prices, it can be seen by referring to each offer on the foregoing pages, how much extra to enclose for postage and extra packing.

I am also in a position to allow a reduction of more than ten per cent. on certain varieties, if wanted without being combined with any of the offers already stated. Thus if ordered in February, I can put in—

Sharpless Strawberry at $0 75 per hundred; $3 50 per thousand, $15 00 per five thousand
Crescent ..... 0 75 " 3 50 "
Bidwell, 40c. per doz.; 1 20 " 7 00 "
Manchester, $1 per doz.; 5 00 " 45 00 "
Lucon, 20c. each; 3 for 50c.; 7 for $1.00.
Old Iron Clad, 10c. each; 5 for 50c.; $1.00 per dozen.
Big Bob, 15c. each; 6 for 75c.; $1.00 per dozen.
Turner Raspberry, 20c. per dozen; $1 per hundred. (Apply specially for reduction per thousand.)
Lee's Prolific Currant, 30c. per dozen.
Black Naples, 75c. per dozen.
Moore's Early Grape, 40 cents each; $4.00 per dozen.
Jefferson " 30 " 2.00 "
Prentiss " 30 " 2.00 "

These prices are only for plants sent by express—purchaser paying express charges. If to be sent by mail postpaid, add, for Strawberries, 5 cents per dozen; 15 cents per fifty; or 25 cents per hundred; for Raspberries and Currants, 15 cents per dozen; 40 cents per fifty; or 75 cents per hundred; and 3 cents for each Grape Vine—for the purpose of covering the postage and extra time and material in packing.

Prices for these varieties during March will be 15 per cent. higher.

Write your name and address plainly, and send cash by registered letter or postal order, to

T. C. ROBINSON,
Drawer 465,
OWEN SOUND, ONT.

HOW TO SUCCEED WITH SMALL FRUITS.

Acres of explanation and description have doubtless been written on this part of the subject—and more will come yet. But while there are many points that need elucidation, there are a few general principals, which, if acted upon, will ensure success to even the novice. Any one desiring the best work on the subject in existence should send for E. P. Roe's magnificently illustrated book, "Success with Small Fruits," price, $2.00—which can be procured through me if desired. Fuller's "Small Fruit Culturist" is also an excellent work, more within the means of all—price $1.50—to be had of almost leading booksellers. Meantime let us consider the principles I have mentioned.

1st.—Plant healthy, hardy productive varieties.

2nd.—Give clean cultivation. I am not sure but this should come first of all. It is a fact that few persons realize, that if the weeds are kept down from the first, crops of

the most productive varieties of Strawberries, Raspberries, Currants, Blackberries and even Grapes, can be grown on land too poor to yield anything like a crop of wheat, potatoes or corn. I don't *recommend* poor land—because rich soil will do so very much better *with equal cultivation*; but the fact above stated seems to me so remarkable as to be worthy of special mention. The cheapest way is to kill the weeds while they are sprouting, or before they are two inches high—one inch is better—and the best tool for this work that I know of is the common Dutch, or push, or "slide" hoe—from six to ten or twelve inches wide. Of course if your land is stony or gravelly, you may need an ordinary "whack" hoe; heavy land inclined to bake may also need something that will go a little deeper than the slide hoe. But even on clay land I find the latter works well enough, if a narrower size is used. One six inches wide reduces the cutting of strawberry runners and suckers that start up all around raspberry and blackberry bushes to mere child's play. Narrow hoes of this pattern can be bought almost anywhere, but they are generally set at such an angle on the shank as to run persistently into the ground, on a handle of ordinary length. This shape, however, is just right for cutting strawberry runners. If wider ones cannot be had at the home hardware store, a post card to Mr. J. A. Simmers, the well-known seedsman of Toronto, will doubtless receive a prompt and satisfactory answer, as he writes me that he keeps all sizes of this implement in stock. I don't know his prices, but presume that they range from say 25 cents to 75 cents, without handles, and that for little more—possibly for those figures—they could be sent free by mail.

3rd.—Put on plenty of manure. It is true plants will fruit without,—but why feed the onion and cabbage patch and starve the hardest working, best producing plants in the garden—just because they will work in some sort of way on next to nothing! Manure prevents injury from drouth; manure doubles to quadruples the yield—it increases the size as well as the number of berries—and, as a general result, it often makes twenty rods of land pay better than a poorly-fed acre of the same kind. In general terms put cow manure on sandy soils, and horse manure on heavy land; but *put it on*,—of whatever kind,—on any soil. Best success with manure is to be attained by using it only when well rotted, if plants are to be set immediately; or, if rather fresh, by letting it have time to rot in the ground before planting; or by letting it partially or thoroughly rot in the heap, while the plants start into growth, and then putting it on the surface about midsummer. Wood ashes and bone dust are most excellent for all kinds of fruit—especially strawberries and grapes. Stable manure is wanted least of all by grape vines—if abundant, and especially if fresh, the vine will make a soft tender growth and the fruit will probably rot. The Delaware perhaps can stand rich ground best of all.

4th.—Cut runners off strawbery plants; hoe down outside suckers from raspberry and blackberry roots; thin out old unproductive wood of gooseberries and red currants; kill the leaf worms on sight with powdered white hellebore; keep all bushes from growing more than three to five feet high by nipping off the growing tips; lastly, don't let too many sprouts grow on your grape vines, and don't let any branch on the vine grow more than four or five feet without nipping the tip.

CONCLUDING WORDS.

And now reader, I have done my best to tell you about the best varieties and how to succeed with them. It will need no labored explanation from me to assure you that it costs money and time to get up a pamphlet like this; and if you have received any benefit from it, is it not fair that you should help defray the cost! Old customers will need no request to buy again—their orders will begin to come in within a week. But you may never have bought plants in this way, and may perhaps be suspicious from past experience with tree and plant agents. Now I ask you to consider the advantage of dealing direct with a man who, as far as possible, grows the plants sent out, and so feels a direct responsibility for the quality of the stock, and to give me a trial order of at least $1—judging me thereafter by the character of my plants.

Thus awaiting your esteemed commands, and wishing you a season of cultivation rich with the results of God's own glorious sunshine and refreshing rains, I remain

Your obedient servant,

T. C. ROBINSON.

"EARLY VICTOR"

FOR DESCRIPTION SEE PAGE 26.

ORDER TREE SEEDS.
Ash, Beech, Birch, Cedar, Elm, Maple, Oak, Pine, Spruce, &c., &c. James Rennie's Seed Catalogue mailed free to farmers only.
JAMES RENNIE, TORONTO.